JOHN BULL, DECEMBER 5, 1925 *Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.* Postage in U.K. or Abroad, 1d.

JOHN BULL

OVER A MILLION CERTIFIED NET SALE

Vol. XXXVIII. No. 1018. TWOPENCE.

DRINK AND ENJOY LIPTON'S TEA

"BULLETS" XMAS OFFER CLOSING WEEK *Page 43*

Is It "Hats Off" NOW?

by A. G. GARDINER

Act like magic!

IF YOU HAVE
A headache
A bad taste in the mouth
A furred tongue
An acid stomach

TAKE BEECHAM'S PILLS
They act like magic!

Banish biliousness
Liven the liver
Stimulate the system
With good appetite
Clear brain
And perfect digestion
You will find
Life worth living.

Beecham's Pills

Christmas 1925

JOHN BULL'S Great Xmas Gift to You

JOHN BULL'S
Christmas Gift
Voucher
1/-
This Xmas Gift Voucher will be accepted as One Shilling in part payment of the famous "John Bull" Pen. Only one voucher will be taken in part payment for each Pen. Offer available until December 31, 1925.

This Coupon is Worth 1/- to you

IMPORTANT NOTICE to our Readers

WITH Christmas only three weeks away, those readers who are desirous of taking advantage of "John Bull's" Great Christmas Gift are strongly advised to send in their applications without delay and thus avoid the inevitable Christmas rush. We repeat the offer:—

(1) A present of One Shilling in the form of the above Voucher, which on presentation will be accepted as One Shilling Cash in part payment of the famous "John Bull" 5/- Pen, equal in every respect to pens usually sold at double or treble the price. Fitted with 14-Ct. Solid Gold Nib, iridium tipped, safety cap. Guaranteed 2 years.

(2) A Gift of a magnificent 2/6 Everpointed Pencil, heavily plated, complete with re-fills.

(3) A dazzling presentation Golden Box—the handsomest box that ever contained a pen.

Cut out the Presentation Voucher above, attach to coupon and post to-day. Don't be too late.

A new idea! Have your name engraved on the pen (6d. extra—see coupon).

2/6 "Everpointed" Pencil FREE!

—heavily plated, beautifully chased, with refills and clip complete.

Christmas Gift Coupon.

"JOHN BULL," Pen Dept., Long Acre, W.C.2.

Please send me the Golden Christmas Gift Set, containing the "JOHN BULL" 5/- Lever Filler Pen, and FREE 2/6 Everpointed Pencil.

I enclose Gift Voucher (which please accept as 1/- in part payment), together with Postal Order for 4/3 (*which includes Postage and Insurance*).

(Pocket Clip 3d. each extra.)

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

Fine, medium or broad nib. (*Cross out words not required.*)

Your name engraved in gold on Pen, 6d. extra.....
(*Write in capitals name desired.*)

Cross Postal Order "& Co.," and make payable to "JOHN BULL." J.B. 5.12.25.

"JOHN BULL'S" FREE INSURANCE GIFT

1 1 1 more benefits paid this week

Space permits us to give a few names only.

FIRE—Up to £400.

NOTTS.—Mr. F. CODDINGTON, Edingeley, Nr. Southwell.
LLANDEILO, CARMARTHENSHIRE.—Mr. J. WALTERS, Pantybloden.
EDINBURGH.—Mrs. R. ALEXANDER, 13, Canongate.
BRADFORD.—Mrs. H. GLEDHILL, 31, Ripley Terrace, Ripley Villa.
GODREAMAN, Nr. ABERDARE.—Mr. S. HILLIER, 12, New Street.
STRATHAVEN, LANARKSHIRE.—Mr. J. S. MILLAR, 13, The Cross.
BURY.—Mr. T. STEEN, 23, Monmouth Avenue.
ROTHERHAM.—Mrs. S. WALSHAM, 63, Wilton Gardens.
CANNOCK, STAFFS.—Mr. GEO. ATTWOOD, 427, Pye Green Road.
NOTTINGHAM.—Mrs. R. ALLEN, 73, Annesley Street, Meadow.
GLASGOW.—Mr. WM. DICKSON, 26, Eaglesham Street, Plantation.
ECCLESFIELD, Nr. SHEFFIELD.—Miss M. H. GREENSMITH, 19, The Common.
SHEFFIELD.—Mr. T. STANHALL, 1/3, Leicester Street.
ROTHERHAM.—Mrs. MARTHA SHAW, 55, Pennhill Street, Rawmarsh.
NANTWICH, CHESHIRE.—Mr. H. BUTLER, 59, Cowfields.
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—Mrs. DOUGLAS, 1319, Walker Road, St. Anthonys.
RAWMARSH, Nr. ROTHERHAM.—Mr. G. W. PELVIN, 61, Chapel Street.

STORM FLOODS—Up to £300.

THORNBURY, Nr. BRISTOL.—Miss ELSIE BAYLIS, Lower Bath Road.
BIRMINGHAM.—Mrs. E. WHILE, 6, Cottage Place, Villa Street, Hockley.
ABERDARE.—Mrs. J. CULLIMORE, 23, South Grimsby.
BIRMINGHAM.—Mrs. D. MARSHALL, 3/63, Bunbury Street, Hockley.
DERBYSHIRE.—G. FLEET, 99, Church Street, South Normanton, Nr. Alfreton.
BIRMINGHAM.—H. HUGHES, 4/279, Icknield Street, Hockley.
BIRMINGHAM.—W. J. YARDLEY, 72, Factory Road, Soho.
BIRMINGHAM.—G. F. DURDEN, 4/66, Bunbury Street, Hockley.
BIRMINGHAM.—Mrs. OLNER, 80, Factory Road, Hockley.
LYE, Nr. STOURBRIDGE.—E. PARDOE, 11, Careless Green, Wollescote.
WALSALL.—S. WATSON, 3, Hatherton Street.

SICKNESS BENEFITS—£5 5 0.

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BLETCHLEY, BUCKS.—Mrs. A. HARRIS, 5, Albert Street.
RYTON-ON-TYNE, DURHAM.—Mr. ROBT. SAWYERS, 3, Frank Street, Greenside.
RYTON-ON-TYNE, DURHAM.—Mr. J. HOWD, 1, Ellison Terrace, Greenside.
SUFFOLK.—Mr. A. FRIEND, Hall Road, Parham, Nr. Wickham Market.
READING.—Mr. E. HEATH, 22, Catherine Street.
SHEFFIELD.—Mrs. G. A. PANTING, 3, Bridport Road, Darnall.
MIDDLESBROUGH.—Mr. P. CAVANEY, 19, Innes Street.
ROTHERHITHE.—Mr. H. RAWLINS, 10, Alpine Road.
ATTLEBOROUGH, Nr. NORWICH.—Mr. ALBERT BROWN, Field Road, Scoulton.
LIVERPOOL.—Mrs. H. NORRIS, 17, Oxford Street.

INJURY CAUSED BY BURGLARS.

WALSALL, STAFFS.—Mrs. E. L. MARSTON, 1, Countess Street, Palfrey.

ACCIDENT BENEFITS—£3 per week.

SUFFOLK, Nr. DEBENHAM.—Mrs. R. MILLER, Winston Green.
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—Mrs. C. STANLEY, 56, Mitford Street.
ROMILEY, CHESHIRE.—Mrs. M. A. WINSON, Low Bank Cottages.
ABERDEEN.—Mrs. M. CAMERON, 67, Urquhart Road.
BRISTOL.—Mrs. L. A. DENHAM, 51, Sandbach Road, Bridlington.
ABERTILLERY.—Mrs. D. WILLIAMS, 7, Powell Street.
SHEFFIELD.—Mrs. A. E. ARNOLD, 104, Darnall Road, Attercliffe.
YORKS.—Mrs. M. A. STORM, Station Road, Robin Hoods Bay.

NEWSAGENTS' BONUS.—Bonuses in respect of the above benefits have been paid to the Newsagents concerned.

TOTAL BENEFITS PAID—18,282.

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To "John Bull" Registration Department, Long Acre, London, W.C.2. I have sent an order form to my newsagent for the regular weekly delivery of JOHN BULL. Please register me as a regular reader.

Reader's Name ..... Age.....
in full (CAPITAL LETTERS.)

Address .....

.....

Reader's Signature .....

Name and Address of Newsagent .....

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Date.....

Use ½d. stamp. Don't send envelope. A certificate setting out the full benefits and conditions and certifying registration will be sent if ½d. stamped addressed envelope is enclosed.

PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY. J.B. 5.12.25.

CUT HERE. HAND THIS COUPON TO YOUR NEWSAGENT.

To (Name of Newsagent).....

Address .....

.....

Please deliver or reserve JOHN BULL for me weekly until further notice.

Signature .....

Address .....

Date ....

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For Christmas.

Let an Ingersoll convey your good wishes to intimate friends this Christmas.

There's an extensive range of models from which to make your choice—each accurate and reliable—good for many years dependable service. Buy your gifts early. You get the best choice.

INGERSOLL WATERBURY RADIOLITE 30/-
(Plain dial 25/-)

INGERSOLL WATCHES 8/6 to 110/- INGERSOLL ALARM CLOCKS, 5/6 to 25/-

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Obtainable from

INGERSOLL ACCREDITED AGENTS Only.

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B192. Gent's smart Box Calf Oxford Shoe with plain cap. In sizes 5–11 and half sizes 5½–9½ ... 16/9

Also B194, as above, in Tan Willow Calf 18/9

B192
16/9

Burlingtons for Winter Comfort

To meet the uncertain weather of winter, try a pair of F.H.W's famous Burlingtons.

They fit the foot like a glove, and offer smartness, and fine wear, at prices unequalled anywhere else. All the latest styles; in a wide range of sizes, half-sizes and fittings are ready NOW!

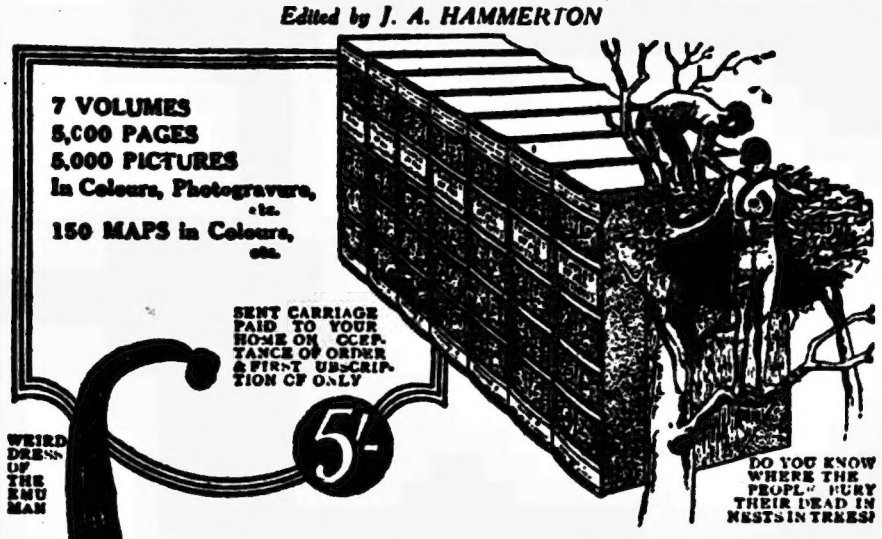
TEST BURLINGTON VALUE BY POST.
Order a pair of Burlingtons. Simply state shoe number and size, and send a pencil outline of your foot, with remittance. (Foreign orders must include enough for postage.) Examine the shoes in your own home. Try them on! We send post free in U.K. **and guarantee to satisfy you.**
If you wish, first send postcard for Burlington Catalogue, which shows scores of styles.

Freeman, Hardy and Willis, Ltd.,
500 SHOPS 500 SHOPS
106, Rutland Street, Leicester.

This Gorgeous Pictorial & Literary Masterpiece
THE WORLD'S 7 MOST FASCINATING VOLUMES
A Lifetime's Winter Evenings Family Entertainment and Information at Home.

PEOPLES OF ALL NATIONS

Edited by J. A. HAMMERTON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OCCUPATION ..... J.B. 2

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My Wonderful Discovery which has relieved me and many thousands of fellow sufferers in every part of the World

is open to you on Seven Days' Trial without obligation of any kind. I am overjoyed at having relieved my aching limbs. I take now a keen delight in walking, once my greatest bugbear.

LET ME TELL YOU MY EXPERIENCE

Ten years ago my feet started to pain me, my shoes seemed too tight, and all the joints were swollen. I suffered badly from cramp at night and felt convinced I had contracted Rheumatism, Sciatica, and Lumbago all together.

I had all the symptoms of Uric Acid, and my medical man treated me accordingly. As I seemed to get worse instead of better, I made a study of my own case, and, at length, traced the cause of my aches and pains.

The truth was that I had gradually developed Foot Trouble. You couldn't notice it when I walked, but I could **feel** that the bony arches of my feet were slowly but surely collasping. Of course, I tried the various "supports" and "foot casers" I could find. But they were all heavy and hard to the foot, and added to the burden of walking. They were rigid and uncomfortable, and gradually **went flat too,** I thought. What is wanted is a soft, pliable support *in the right place,* a light invisible-when-worn contrivance that is always comfortable—in short—

AN AIR-CUSHION SUPPORT

This is the principle of my patent "Pneumette" Soles. You literally walk on air. They are interchangeable and you can wear them with any Footwear.

They are absolutely the softest, lightest, kindest, and most sympathetic supports you can possibly conceive.

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Write or call to-day for Free Booklet and particulars of seven days' Trial—

JOHN D. MILLER, Pneumette Foot Comforts, (Dept. J.B.L.), 203, REGENT STREET, LONDON, W.1.

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in value, quality, and all-round excellence, GRAVES ALL-BRITISH GRAMOPHONES are here offered you at the keenest BARGAIN PRICES and on EASY TERMS.

This is the world's greatest Gramophone Bargain offer. Every instrument is made entirely in the Graves Gramophone Factory, and warranted to be thoroughly dependable in performance.

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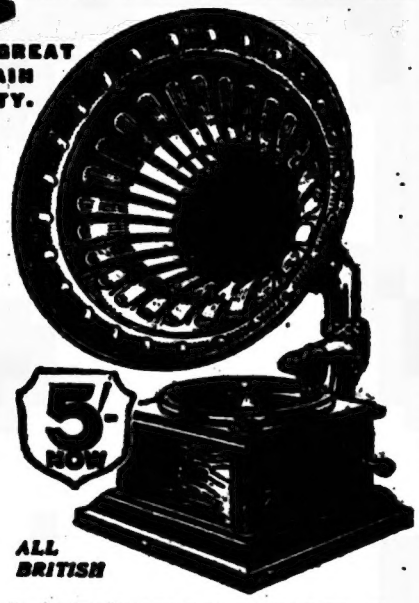

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THE GRAVES HORNLESS GRAMOPHONE has a strikingly handsome cabinet, beautifully polished, size 16½ x 14 x 7¾ins. and is fitted with a mechanically perfect silent-running motor with worm drive. Nickel plated fittings and taper tone-arm, and super-sensitive reproducer of excellent strength. Quality guaranteed. **£3:0:0**
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All foods, food products, toilet preparations, medicines and drugs, and other articles capable of a laboratory test which have been approved by our experts are marked—JB

In the case of medicines and drugs we guarantee that if they are taken or applied according to the directions they will have no injurious effects.

Any complaint must reach us within one month from the appearance of the advertisement in "John Bull," and in the case of dispute the decision of our Managing Director shall be final. ODHAMS PRESS LIMITED Proprietors of "JOHN BULL."

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Amazing Bargains in all kinds of Wants

A real wonder book for money-savings. Yours Free for postcard. Everything direct from factories at nearly Half usual prices. Watches 3/9; Clocks 2/6; Diamond Brooches 1/3; Opera Glasses 1/9; Hair Clippers 2/6; Gramophones by wonderfully Easy Payments Big bargains in Household needs

Don't delay—Write To-DAY.

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V	I	S	O	R		C	O	D		F	R	O	C	K
E		A		A		I		E		R		O		
L	E	B	A	N	O	N		S	C	A	B	A	R	D
D		B	I	T		V	I	M		T	A	R		A
T	E	A	R		T	A	M	A	R		D	I	R	K
		T		G		S	P	Y		G		A		
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E	N	T	R	Y		D	R	Y		T	R	E	A	T

Solution to the Cross-word puzzle published in our last issue. The horse given for the Manchester November Handicap was Wandering Monk.

RHEUMATISM CURED

QUICKLY AND EFFECTIVELY.

Ashton-u-Lyne.

Sir,—Just a word of praise for Urace Tablets. I have been an acrobat on tour for 30 years, and have since the war suffered from acute Rheumatic pains in the back, and I have tried nearly everything that has been advertised, but the pain still came, so at last I tried Urace, and I may say they have done me much good: in fact, I wouldn't be without them now, and I strongly recommend them to all others.—BERT DANE.

URACE, and **URACE** alone, can cure Rheumatism. It directly attacks the cause—uric acid—dissolves and expels it from the system, and prevents its reappearance. That is why URACE has succeeded when scores of so-called cures, such as rubbappliances, belts, and treatments, and cures, have failed. That is why URACE is so freely prescribed and supported by the Medical Profession. Get your supply to-day.

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THE ACKNOWLEDGED REMEDY FOR NEURALGIA, CRAMP, NERVE PAINS LUMBAGO, RHEUMATISM, KIDNEY TROUBLE, GOUT, BACKACHE, SCIATICA, &c.

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Thousands of British doctors recommend and use them—a safe, natural skin remedy.

Magical in all kinds of skin trouble.

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Let your family find their pleasures at home this Winter

WITH A Riley "Home" Billiard Table!

Riley's 'Home' Billiard Tables resting on ordinary dining-tables

14/- For a first payment of 14/- Riley's will send at their risk, carr. paid in free packing case, their 6 ft. 4 in. "Home" Billiard Table (Cash price, £11/15/0) to rest on any ordinary size dining table. The remainder you pay monthly whilst you use the table. Every table sent on

Seven Days' Free Trial.

Can be had in any of the following sizes:—

4ft. 4in. x 2ft. 4in.	£7	0	0	or in	8/6
5ft. 4in. x 2ft. 10in.	£9	0	0	18	11/-
6ft. 4in. x 3ft. 4in.	£11	15	0	monthly	14/-
7ft. 4in. x 3ft. 10in.	£15	0	0	payments	18/-
8ft. 4in. x 4ft. 4in.	£21	10	0	of	25/-

Riley's "Combine" Billiard and Dining Tables. Beautiful pieces of furniture. Cash prices from £28/10/0 can be had for 15 or 20 monthly payments.

Send to-night for pricelist of billiard tables.

Riley's are the makers of the world-famed Riley's Full-size Billiard Tables. Estimates and particulars sent free.

E. J. RILEY, LTD. ANSON WORKS, ACCRINGTON.

And at Dept. 20, 147, Aldersgate Street, E.C.1.

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CHRISTMAS Presents.—Charming gifts in beautiful China, Pottery, Glass and Cutlery from 3/9 to £5. China for all purposes at maker's prices. Coloured Catalogue free with Christmas free gift offer.— Century Pottery, Dept. 125, Burslem, Staffs. Est. 1903.

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LEATHER.—Our Noted Tannage at 1/5½, 1/7½, 1/9, 2/- and 2/3 lb.; send for free cutting.—THE YARD LEATHER CO., Merthyr.

Do you want to go Bald?

Are you neglecting the sure signs of coming baldness?

32-pp. Illustrated Book FREE.

Thousands of men and women are behaving just as if they actually *wanted* to go bald. They see daily indications that baldness is threatening, falling hairs, dryness, brittleness, the presence of scurf and dandruff, yet they do nothing to prevent it. Or, if they do anything, they try to cure it by rubbing ointments and lotions on the top of their heads.

You cannot prevent baldness by rubbing lotions on the hair. Baldness comes from *within*. It comes because the hair roots themselves are being starved and the roots lie so deep below the scalp that nothing applied externally can possibly reach them. The only source whence the hair roots can draw any nourishment is the minute blood vessel at the base of each root. And the only way nourishment can reach that blood vessel is through the blood stream itself. That is why

Over 2,000 Doctors

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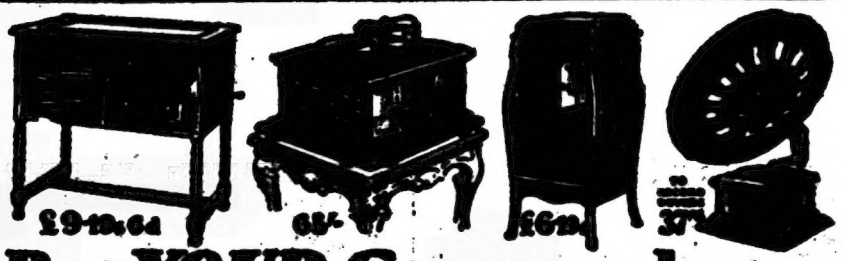

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Cheques for £10, £3 and £2 respectively will be paid to the Newsagents from whom the winners of the First Three "Bullets" Prizes in Competition No. 584 have purchased their copies of "John Bull."

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1. The First Prize will be awarded for what in the opinion of the judges in consultation with the Editor is the best Bullet received, and the other prizes in order of merit, the test being cleverness, aptness and originality.

2. Only two attempts may be written on each coupon, and a postal order must be enclosed at the rate of 6d. for each coupon made use of. This must be made payable to JOHN BULL, and crossed and addressed. Competitors must write their names and address and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon subunitted. Coupons must not be mutilated.

3. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent panel of qualified judges.

4. The Editor's decision on any matter of dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

Employees of Odhams Press are not eligible [illegible]

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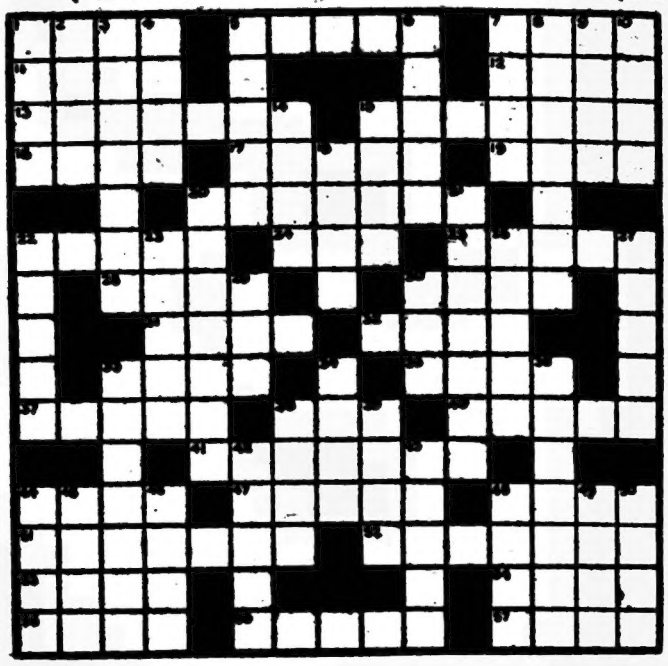
Our Cross-word Corner

A Fireside Feature

A ROARING fire, a cosy chair, a pencil—and here is the material to provide an amusing and educative half-hour.

(The solution to last week's Cross-word Puzzle will be found on page 4)



ACROSS CLUES

1. Pretence.
5. Used in chess.
7. In the centre of.
11. To misplace.
12. A weed.
13. Lovable.
14. Concise.
16. Moulding.
17. An Oriental ruler.
19. Conceal.
20. Military rank.
22. A legal defence.
24. Advice.
25. To procrastinate.
28. Ship's company.
30. Positive.
31. Species of goat.
32. Spice.
33. A tribe.
35. Part of conqueror's outfit.
37. Laughable.
38. An extinct bird.
40. To reproach with insult.
41. Refuse.
44. Preserve.
47. Liberal.
48. To alter ship's course.
51. A Church dignitary.
52. Distress.
53. Musical compositions.
54. An adhesive.
55. Assessment.
56. Running knot.
57. Observed.

DOWN CLUES

1. Flat piece of stone.
2. Abode.
3. Oriental.
4. Drink made from honey.
5. Pertaining to Poles.
6. To set off.
7. Minute particle.
8. Handcuff.
9. A flower.
10. To adorn.
14. Send forth.
15. Spring.
18. Calamity.
20. Parti-coloured.
21. Teach.
22. Audibly.
23. Fish.
26. Place of combat.
27. Vessel.
29. Fleshy excrescence.
30. Adage.
33. Change.
34. Mash.
36. Lasting.
38. Pinnacle.
39. Highland dress.
42. Consumed.
43. Self command.
44. To box.
45. Operatic solo.
46. Otherwise.
48. Pulls hard.
49. Guide.
50. Enthusiastic.

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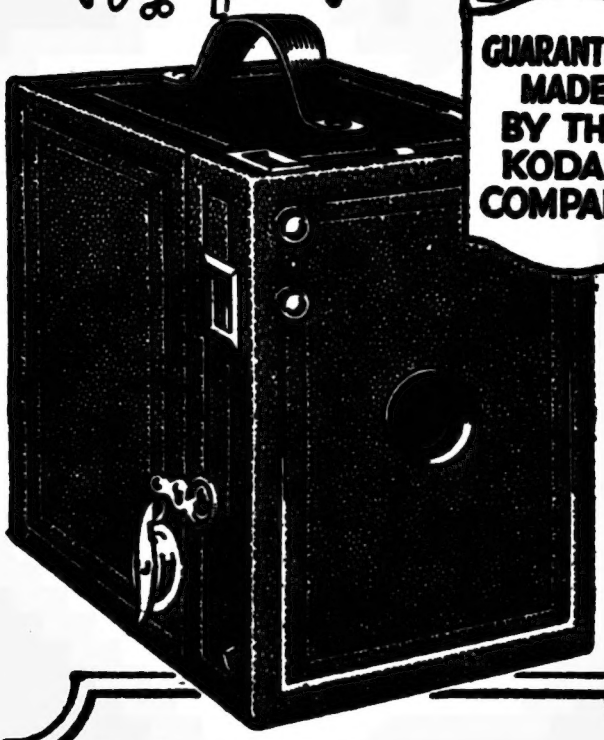

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"Estelle Holds My Hand"—by Sydney A. Moseley ... ... p. 26

The WORLD, *the* FLESH *& the* DEVIL

Sleeping Sickness.

The Government way of smothering Parliamentary discontent is to induce the lethargy of dullness. Night after night on Tithes and Rating Bills leaves Members too inert to grumble or fight.

Farmers Take the Lead.

With their own disgraceful lethargy in producing a land policy, can the Government wonder that their new Minister of Agriculture had to fight the farmers for his seat?

Courting the Coy.

Milder members of the Labour Party continue to invite the Liberals to join them. Advanced Liberals issue the same invitation to Labour. The game of spider and fly is at least amusing.

Warring Elements.

This political puss-in-the-corner business emphasises our opinion that the Labour Party is not a happy band of brothers. It is, in fact, a mass of conflicting interests.

The Empty Chest.

The miserable fiasco of the Liberal fighting fund is a clear searchlight on that moribund party. People who are not willing to pay for the Liberal Party don't want it.

L.G. and the Land.

Strong efforts are on foot to secure that the national Liberal conference on land policy early next year results in united action. Meanwhile Mr. Lloyd George's private political fund is not at the service of the Party.

Winnie's Impudence.

Winston Churchill's amazing effrontery in proposing to raid the Road Fund to cover up his financial blunderings leaves us breathless. In private business such trickery would be called by its proper name.

The Twelve Apostles.

Save for the re-emphasis of the obvious legal fact that to preach the overthrow of the existing order of things is clear sedition, the sentences passed on the Communist "leaders" mean nothing.

Bogey Men.

None of the twelve who stood in the dock at the Old Bailey is of any account, except in the eyes of an easily gullible police force and a bogey-man hunting Home Secretary. They have no following, and, what is more important, no brains.

Where Power Lies.

With the stopping of the Soviet subsidies a couple of years ago the British Communist movement ceased to be effective. The danger centre is now the National Minority Movement, inside the trade unions. It has the strike weapon behind it and therefore has power.

Sedition Mongering.

The Ministry of Health has sent to local authorities throughout the country detailed instructions for maintaining essential services during "national emergency." Mr. Baldwin, if he wishes to keep industrial peace, should sack Ministers with this penny-dreadful type of mind.

Wisdom *v.* Unwisdom.

Any Government worth its salt has plans prepared for emergencies, but it doesn't broadcast them. There's no civil war in this country. To send out war-time plans is the sure way to provoke hostilities.

Monstrous Towns.

The urban report issued by the Liberal Land Committee estimates 3,000,000 new houses for England and Wales in the next twenty years, for which 300,000 acres of land will be needed. Present towns are already too crowded. Given room on the land the new populations could live.

Jack Horners.

Interest after interest puts a finger in the "piecemeal Protection" pie. Knitting manufacturers have organised, and the hook-and-eye and other trades round Birmingham are moving. Yet Birmingham under Free Trade is one of the bright spots in the employment map.

Not Worth Twopence.

A worthless franc and the resignation of M. Painlevé twice within a month puts France in a quandary. New and young blood might put life into the situation, but the French is not the only Government that never thinks of that.

How it would Pay.

The drain of sickness on the country's resources is enormous. Reduced by merely one-third £150,000,000 per annum would be saved. It could easily be done by slum clearance and decentralisation. Land monopoly blocks the way.

A Riddle.

The Food Council will investigate *next year* the mysterious gap between prices paid to vegetable growers and prices paid by consumers. Jam yesterday, jam to-morrow, but no jam to-day!

Last Week of Xmas Prizes!

£1,500 "BULLETS" 1st PRIZE

and over **2,000** CASH AWARDS

See page 43.

A Crying Scandal.

A Lincolnshire grower received 19s. 8d. for 120 dozen savoys. Rail charges to London totalled £3 17s. 7d., and salesman's commission 10s. 9d. Customers buying retail at 6d. each brought the lot to £36. We can tell the Commission, without winking, who got that swag.

Bakers' Defiance.

Woolwich Arsenal Co-operative Society keeps the 4-lb. loaf at 8½d. London master bakers raise the 4-lb. loaf to 9½d. It's sheer profiteering impudence that calls the increase.

Public Poisoners.

The Home Office is considering issuing an order in connection with the spread of dermatitis among bakers. What it really ought to do is prosecute those who foul food with adulterants.

Dear Clothes.

Speculation in wool is keeping up terrific clothes prices. Dear clothes reach fashionable backs, not the shivering. As usual, swollen profits are made permanent by foolish purchasers.

Old Horses.

Captain Gee, M.P., did a better thing than winning his V.C. when he brought charges against the R.S.P.C.A. for its exposure of horrible methods in old horse slaughter. Public attention is certainly focused now on an infamous and devilish traffic.

Compulsory Sorrow.

Hardship was caused to thousands of theatrical workers who were compelled to lose a day's pay when London West End theatres closed for the Royal funeral. This should be rectified. It's the only possible tribute to a Queen whose life was devoted to the alleviation of suffering.

The Alternative.

Winter revives the old controversy, "Is fox-hunting cruel?" Defenders claim that deprived of this "sport" huntsmen might turn to amusement much more cruel. It doesn't say much for their intellect. But that's something fox-hunting doesn't develop.

Birmingham Bumbledom.

Birmingham city fathers are surpassing themselves. After Pavlova's legs, George Robey's songs come in for censorship. That too much restriction in public leads to licence in private is what such super-moralists forget.

Headphones and Feebleness.

Peers listening to one another's speeches through headphones in the House of Lords are pleased with the results. It's more than can be said for taxpayers who provide the amusement. But then, they weren't consulted.

The WORLD, the FLESH & the DEVIL

Red Rags.

We stand for political freedom, but have no sympathy for people who bring physical violence upon themselves by waving red flags at so sacred a ceremony as the unveiling of the War memorial at Harrow Green, Leytonstone. To exploit such an occasion for political purposes is an insult to the dead which their living relatives are, we are glad to see, quick to resent.

An un-English Proposal.

The Home Secretary has very wisely dropped that clause in the new Criminal Justice Bill which would have authorised the police to break into any house in which they suspected that an indictable offence was "about to be committed." Mere suspicion is not enough to justify official house-breaking. Punishing crimes before they are committed is contrary to the whole spirit of British justice.

Saved by his Face.

Congratulations to Mr. Hay Halkett, the Marylebone magistrate, who was wise enough to know where to look for the real culprit when a youth of sixteen was charged with theft. Remarking that the boy had a straightforward face and didn't look like a shifty character, he placed him on probation, and gave three months' hard labour to an older youth who had tried to lead the lad astray.

The Butcher Baulked.

We are glad to find that Deputy-Judge Morris, of Rhyl, has no sympathy with the rent profiteer. At Rhyl County Court he refused to give John Williams, a butcher, possession of a cottage, because the latter admitted that he wanted to let the cottage to a new tenant at 12s. 6d. a week, whereas the occupier only paid 6s. 6d. This sort of thing should be stopped wherever possible.

There's the Rub.

"We can do the best for England by increasing the number of men on the land," says Mr. Walter Runciman, M.P. But what the man at present on the land at a wage of less than 30s. a week wants to know is when his lot is going to be better. We can't imagine a number of men taught the highly skilled job of the tiller of the soil singing the praises of any politician who has led them to the worst paid work in the world.

A "Picture" for the Public.

The decision of the Government to make the signing of the Locarno Pact as public as possible, even to a film being taken, is a wise one and is peculiarly astute. The Government hope by boosting the success of the Foreign Office to deflect criticism from their failures at home. Whether the taxpayer will be consoled for the demands made upon him by being shown a film of diplomats remains to be seen.

A New Religion.

A woman was asked by the Old Street magistrate, "What is your religion?" "Charing, your worship," she replied. There was laughter in court, we are told. If it were of the mocking variety it was certainly misplaced. Honest work, honestly done, is a good deal better religion than many we wot of, and the man who shifts a pestilent dung-heap has done more in the service of humanity than he who spends laborious days in an endeavour to disprove the authenticity of the miracles.

The Vital Profession.

Dr. Harold Dearden, the author of "The Science of Happiness," is a clear-sighted savant. He points out that a woman in the throes of child-birth is risking her life for the State no less than a soldier in battle. And to finer purpose, we think. "Dependence is the curse of all women, whether married or single," he adds; "and it is to be hoped that the profession of motherhood will one day be regarded as a wage-earning occupation." That it should be is one of those elemental truths obscured by its own obviousness.

In Death—Friends.

Otto Kraft is a young German who broke all records of depth in an attempt to locate the *M 1*. Whirled about by fierce currents he came up sick, dizzy, and blind, but bravely tried and tried again. Human effort could do no more. British or German, the heart of humanity is sound.

Unearned Incomes.

It seems to be assumed in some quarters that because certain landowners have made over their estates to limited liability companies they no longer derive profits from them. This is a fallacy. For example, under an agreement with his shareholders the Duke of Rutland is guaranteed an annual income of £12,000. We strongly advise his Grace to put by a bit for a rainy day.

Thrashing the Wrong Horse.

When Gertrude Dobson, a twenty-six-year-old servant girl, was charged at Hull with stealing clothing from her employers, drink and betting were said to be her ruin. When she said she preferred prison to being sent to a home the stipendiary called her a "silly ass." The pity is that her father, who offered his care when she was bound over, did not realise parental responsibility sooner. Losing her mother when a baby, made unhappy by a stepmother, Gertrude never had a chance.

Love's Greatest Sacrifice.

Fire broke out at the house of Mr. John Jones, grocer, Llangefni, Bagnor, and the frantic father managed to save his baby boy. Agonised that a little daughter and nephew were still trapped he rushed back into the very heart of the flames, but collapsed in his heroic efforts to save them. Children and would-be rescuer perished, but the deed of sacrifice stands out as one of the noblest.

The Human Machine

The Other Fellow

by E. R. THOMPSON, M.A.

IT is extraordinary to see the number of people who go about grumbling at their own job and envying the job the other fellow has.

"Ah!" they say, "if only I had his chances!" You know the type of man I mean, don't you? He always wants what he hasn't got and is always wanting to be where he isn't.

The curious thing is that while you are saying this about the other fellow's job, he is saying exactly the same thing about yours.

You are both of you making the same mistake. You are both looking at your own jobs in terms of their disadvantages, and looking only at the advantages of the job belonging to the other fellow.

If you don't see the opportunities that your own job holds it is because you fail to recognise opportunity under its disguise of hard work.

If the other fellow is making good it is because he is cheerfully shouldering responsibility and working hard.

If he is forging ahead it is because he is busy making opportunities instead of sitting down and waiting for them to come to him.

THERE'S nothing wrong with your job, my friend. The trouble is with yourself. If you worked half as hard at your job as you work at envying other people your employer would be getting something like value for his money.

And you yourself would be getting satisfaction from your work instead of irritation.

Never mind the other fellow. He's got plenty of worries and irritations, even though you can't see them.

You have just the same opportunities as he has—if you take the trouble to look for them.

What is a Lottery?

When Oswald R. Patterson and Henry Birtwhistle were fined at Halifax for publishing an alleged lottery the court was told that even lawyers did not know what is legal and what illegal. "The pity is," said Mr. W. Bailey, "that Parliament hesitates to legislate and put things right." JOHN BULL has said this many times.

Wholesome Publicity.

If the Ministry of Health cannot deal with the milk-profiteer someone else must intervene to protect the babies. A sound plan is that adopted by the Nuneaton Trade Council, which has called a public meeting to protest against milk prices in the Midlands. It is time the British people were taught the art of self-defence.

Unemployment Curse.

After two years' unemployment, Benjamin Round, a middle-aged fitter at Dudley, was pushed off the "dole." The next day he committed suicide. At the inquest the coroner declared that there was "nothing to indicate the state of his mind." In other words, it was not certain that the poor fellow was mad. Heart-breaking misery and despair may have been all that was wrong.

Words of Hate.

Students of the City College, New York, have jibbed at military training because the text-book contains such phrases as "the inherent desire to fight and kill must be watched for and encouraged." The young men are disgusted. It is just as well that the ferocity of warfare is unveiled before the eyes of the rising generation lest the lesson we learnt on the battlefields be forgotten.

A Moral Gesture.

The latest body to demand the abolition of submarines is the Portsmouth Trade Council. The rank and file of our chief naval port is not impressed with the argument that until France agrees to abandon the submarine Great Britain can do nothing. No more are we. In moral causes this country used to lead the world. The British Government should pledge itself to raise the question before the League of Nations.

An Educational Deadlock.

The Essex Education Committee seems to be still playing the fool. This time it is a dispute over teachers' salaries which is upsetting the schools. The teachers demand the approved Burnham scale, which the committee obstinately refuses to adopt. If it were the case of a board of guardians at a deadlock over unemployment Whitehall would soon find means of forcing a solution.

Shoddy Boots.

The National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives is determined to stop the sale of shoddy footwear. Its task would be easier if it were made compulsory to stamp genuine leather boots and shoes with a recognisable mark, distinguishing them from trashy substitutes. The Ministry of Health has a duty in the matter. The connection between unsound boots and such diseases as consumption and pneumonia can be medically proved.

A Serious Charge.

In reply to a challenge by Captain Gee, V.C., M.P., the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals of the Poor admits that only one member of its staff is a qualified veterinary surgeon. At the same time the dispensary authorities repel the gallant captain's suggestion that the absence of proper veterinary qualifications entails "avoidable pain" to the animals treated. Such a grave charge should be substantiated or withdrawn.

Justice for Tramps—and Others.

Mr. Frank Gray, ex-M.P. for Oxford, continues to expose workhouse meanness. Tramps leaving these retreats in Kent, Sussex, Surrey, Berks, Oxfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Essex, were met their allowances of bread, margarine and cheese weighed and in four cases were found wanting. Now Mr. Gray wants to discover if the guardians can be proceeded against. It's what the public wishes to find out in regard to other short-weight dealers. There are a lot of them about.

Foolish and Unkind.

After stating that he would not put questions before a deaf witness in writing, Judge Greenwell, at Morpeth County Court, asked whether she could talk on her fingers. On being told that she could not, he exclaimed: "Then she has no right to be deaf!" We have little but contempt for a man who can utter such a remark, which is both foolish and unkind. That the witness was unable to hear these cruel words is no extenuation.

Too-lenient Bench.

Packed in a box, which was so small it could not move, a little Yorkshire terrier was sent 300 miles by rail from Burnley to Brixham (Devon). It arrived in a dying condition. Harold Kershaw, dog dealer, Yorkshire Street, Burnley, was responsible for its undesirable suffering, and Brixham's too-lenient Bench allowed him to escape with a £12 pocket punishment. Had he been made to do the journey under corresponding conditions he would practise humanity in future.

Bitter Blather.

"It is all very well to have six children, but you must pay your debts," said Judge Scully to a witness at Marylebone. But in any civilised community a man should automatically be credited with the stock he places at the disposal of the State. It has been estimated that every child born into the world is worth on an average £1,500 to the country of its birth. Were the State wise it would pay a parent interest at least bank rate on this sterling security. But was ever a State wise till taught by bitter experience?

Auctioneer Emigrants.

Largely on account of our persistent attacks, the mock-auction menace is now diminishing. Very few customers are to be seen in salerooms which a month or two ago were thronged with pigeons waiting to be plucked. Many of the rooms have closed down altogether, whilst quite a number of doubtful auctioneers have migrated to Ireland in the hope of establishing themselves there. But the Irish papers have quickly drawn attention to them and we trust that it will not be long before they are suppressed altogether.

A Brute from Peru.

Henri Adrianzen is a young Peruvian who married an English girl and left her with two children. He then joined up with a widow who kept a restaurant in Hatton Garden, and not content with living with her ruined her two young daughters, aged thirteen and sixteen respectively. For this offence, at Old Bailey, he was sentenced to five years' penal servitude and recommended for deportation. But the evil lives after him. The ruined lives of all three might have been saved had our constant warning against plausible foreigners been heeded.

The Same Old Game.

Sunderland shopkeepers are making use of a war-time trick in a new guise, when they sell some of the cheaper foodstuffs at one price to their best customers and at a higher figure to those with less to spend. Many charge more per pound for sugar unless tea is bought with it, while the price of groceries, such as currants, raisins, macaroni and semolina, are hardly ever the same in two shops. Fishmongers often reduce their cheaper kinds of fish by 20 or 30 per cent. when the housewife buys salmon or crab as well. This is profiteering that should be stopped at once.

It's Wicked to be Poor.

Summoned at Epsom Petty Sessions, the Earl of Cardigan for furious and dangerous motor driving and disregarding the police. Summoned at Croydon, Harry Sanders, for disregarding police signals when driving a van. The earl, refusing to appear, is let off with a £10 fine. The van-driver, who did appear, endured insults about his hands and clothes being dirty, was fined £7 1s. and told he would go to prison for a month if the money was not forthcoming by four o'clock. Moreover, since his licence is suspended for a year he has lost his job. Moral—if you intend to go in for crime take care to be rich.

An Expression of Regret.

In our issue of February 28, 1925, under the heading "A Photographic Fade Out," we published certain statements about the business of a firm called "The Kent Enlarging Company," of Albion House, 163, Borough High Street. After full enquiry into the circumstances surrounding those statements, we have expressed to Mr. J. White, of 113, Newington Causeway, S.E., the proprietor of the said business, our regret for having published them. If our statements (contrary to our intention) implied that the business carried on by the said firm was not a genuine business, we desire to withdraw, and hereby withdraw, any such imputation.

Housing Humbug.

We recently made several exposures regarding a housing concern called P. F. Wood, Ltd., of Eldon Buildings, 15, 17, Eldon Street, London, E.C.2. This firm has obtained deposits from people on the understanding that houses are to be provided, but up to now the promises and assurances have not been fulfilled. Countless home-seekers have been duped by this company. We should like to know what the police are doing.

A Dual Role?

A Greenock reader received circulars from two racing tipsters, of whom he had never heard in his life. They are R. Morgan, 23, Warren Road, Addiscombe, Surrey, and Cornelius Foy, "the King's Jockey," 43-45, Short's Gardens, London, W.C. From the phrasing of the letters and the signatures, it looks as if Foy and Morgan are one and the same person. In any case tipsters' circulars should always be thrown on the fire.

Bowen's Poor Bluff.

O. Bowen, 19, High Street, Heolycyw, Bridgend, Glam., who describes himself as a printer and publisher, is sending out circulars which are poor advertisement of his printing powers: "dear sir, Do you want to earn money privately? if so, send at once. This is a straightforward offer. Send 2s., and no further charge.—The PUBLISHER." Apart from being short of type, this precious printer would appear to be short of original ideas. We do not think Bowen will find many clients.

Too Good to be True.

A "garden city" scheme, which is being advertised in the *Newcastle Evening Chronicle*, sounds too good to be true. Freehold dwellings, "comprising verandah, hall, four rooms, bathroom and washhouse, with rockery garden surrounds," may be secured for £280. Or a prospective tenant may pay £50 down, £30 on possession, whilst a mortgage of £200 is very obligingly offered. How all this can be accomplished at the prices named is a mystery. Unless the advertisement is grossly misleading it sounds suspiciously like a swindle.

A Sauce Swindle.

Barratt and Sons, the proprietors of "Neapolitan" Sauce, of 87, Stacey Road, Cardiff, describe themselves as "sauce and chutney specialists." Their agents have been calling from house to house in certain parts of Wales, pushing "Neapolitan" sauce on unwary housewives by stating that they will receive a 10s. note for the label "when their publicity man calls next week." A reader in Porth Rhondda is still waiting the arrival of this gentleman. What have Barratt and Sons to say for themselves?

A Spreading Swindle.

A Walthamstow reader advertised for employment and received a communication from The Public Benefit Institute, of 215, Piccadilly, London, W., enclosing four coupons which he was asked to sell for 1s. each to four friends. "When your friends send us these coupons, together with a 4s. postal order for four more coupons," says the circular, "they become eligible for the money offer stated on the coupons, and we will forward you on a 10s. postal order." This is an identical swindle to those of the Provident Thrift Association and La Jornesse, to which we drew attention last week. Keep your money in your pocket!

Problems of Life

Mutual Trust

by the Rev. R. J. CAMPBELL, D.D.

IT must have been a dramatic scene when Mr. Austen Chamberlain and the German Ambassador stood up together to drink the loving cup at the Lord Mayor's banquet.

I am told by some who were present that it sent a thrill of emotion through the assembly such as has rarely been experienced on State occasions of a similar kind.

Herr Sthamer, the German Ambassador

Why was this? I believe it was because all who witnessed the fraternal act perceived it to be real. There was no humbug about it.

No one associates our Foreign Secretary with any desire for display or with insincerity and pretence, and when he pledged the official representative of our late enemies in this public and definite manner the act was understood as symbolic of the existence of a new and friendly spirit between two great nations, a spirit making for universal peace.

It is time we had it. Fighting stopped seven years ago, but the world has not had peace. The Locarno Pact is our first gleam of hope for the return of better days.

I am not in love with its provisions; I do not think any Englishman is; we take big risks in signing it. But it does one great thing: it lifts the grey shadow of fear from the minds of Frenchmen and does something to remove suspicion and rancour from the hearts of the German people also.

TRADE revival may now begin in earnest, or at least it has a better opportunity of so doing than has been afforded since the War, for the one primary requisite for renewed prosperity is confidence, and confidence is impossible while bickering and disbelief in our neighbours' *bona fides* prevail.

Can we apply the same principle to our domestic concerns? I wish Capital and Labour could be induced to sign some sort of Locarno Pact.

The main trouble with most of us is that we cannot trust one another. We are for ever on the watch lest the other fellow should gain some advantage; hence we live in constant turmoil, disorganisation and inefficiency.

Recovery is hopeless till we can get rid of this spirit and put a better in its place.

LET us take a leaf out of America's book. Let every labourer be something of a capitalist too and share responsibility for the success of the industry he serves, and there will be an access of manly good-will forthwith.

The same holds good of the difficulties of our private social life. Dismiss the spirit that fosters prejudice, expects unfriendliness, looks for slights, believes in selfish motives, and at once you brighten human intercourse and increase the sum of simple and natural joys.

Good faith is the foundation of all wholesome and genial fellowship.

THE BAD TEMPLARS

ARMY OFFICERS' BLUFF

Hall-Porter's Investment

TWO gentlemen named Captain E. C. St. John Ronaldson, of 3, Radcliffe Street, South Kensington, and Major Higgins, of Essex House, Essex Street, Strand, are very upset over a passing reference we made recently to a concern with which they are connected, called the Templars' Club.

As soon as our article appeared, Major Higgins telephoned us saying that an interview would, he felt sure, place an entirely different complexion on the matter. A representative went along but, although a very plausible story was told, we were not satisfied.

Captain Ronaldson was thereupon invited to our office to further explain the position, and he sent his brother, who introduced himself as an experienced accountant. His statements were no more convincing however, and in view of the further enquiries we have made regarding the Templars' Club we are satisfied that it is indeed in a very sad way, despite the denials of the promoters.

The club, which has for its object the provision of social intercourse and entertainment between the various professions, had as one of its original workers a gentleman known as Captain Philip Francis Timbrell Stanley.

The League that faded away

This man, prior to his association with the Templars' Club venture, was general secretary of a calamitous concern called the Imperial Settlement League, which, with an imposing array of titled people as its patrons, took money from a number of ex-officers in return for employment and, when all the money had gone, the League faded away.

Captain Stanley, to say the least, did not distinguish himself in this venture, which came to grief about a year ago. Nor did he stay very long at the Templars' Club.

But Captain Stanley has also been concerned with a gentleman named Captain Daniel Desmond Sheehan in another club venture—the St. Martin's Club, at 50, Mark Lane, E.C.

This is very interesting, since Captain Daniel Desmond Sheehan is a barrister-at-law and ex-Member of Parliament who, with Stanley, was vice-chairman of the calamitous Imperial Settlement League!

How the money was raised

The St. Martin's Club scheme has been temporarily abandoned, as Captain Sheehan was recently fined at the Mansion House for having made false returns, and the club struck off the register.

Now, when Captain Stanley left the Templars' Club a little while ago there had already been serious difficulties in regard to finance. Captain Ronaldson was always anxious about money. That is why it was necessary to appeal to the public for funds. Let us show how some of the money was raised.

A few months ago an advertisement appeared for a hall-porter with a small investment. A Hampstead ex-Naval man answered it and got in touch with the Templars' Club.

This man met Captain Stanley and Captain Ronaldson, who stated that they required £100 down, in return for which he would be paid a salary of £4 a week. The ex-Naval man had not got £100. He could, however, manage to scrape up £50.

Captain Stanley and Captain Ronaldson agreed to this and the £50 was paid. But the ex-Naval man did not get the hall-porter's job because in the meantime it had been filled, but Captain Ronaldson put him behind the bar to serve.

He then discovered that other members of the staff were similarly financially involved—a steward, for instance, had invested £100 and two hall-porters £100 each.

The ex-Naval man did not understand the work, but he had pointed that out before his £50 was taken. Consequently, somebody else had to take his place, and he was left about the club with nothing to do.

The debt acknowledged

To save him the bother of going to and fro every day for nothing an arrangement was come to whereby he called once a week for his wages.

This went on for a while. Then there were no wages for him when he called. He has had no wages for weeks. And his £50 is still unavailable.

We spoke to Captain Ronaldson's brother about this and his reply was that the man was useless. But we pointed out that the man's money was as good as anybody else's, and Mr. Ronaldson agreed that the £50 was due to the ex-Naval man. We point-blank asked him to pay it. He answered, "We haven't got the money."

That is the point. Here we have proved that these people, setting out to obtain financial assistance from the public, have no guarantee to give that the money will ever be returned and the jobs be permanent.

One last point. It is within our knowledge that Captain Ronaldson is trying to form a limited liability company to be called "Templars' Clubs, Ltd."

If any of our readers are called upon to take shares in it we strongly advise them to think very carefully over the fairy tales these people are apt to tell.

Pall Mall Potholes

Tattersalls' Rings Round Investors

ACTING upon the advice of a concern called the Pall Mall Industrial Investments, Ltd., a Hove reader purchased numerous shares on a deferred payment system. Up to the end of last year, she had paid the company £126 10s., leaving a balance of £714 outstanding.

Then, having occasion to doubt the reliability of the firm she was dealing with, she ceased negotiations whilst she instituted enquiries.

The Pall Mall Industrial Investments, Ltd., has now issued a writ for the remainder of the money, and our reader has written to ask our advice.

* * *

We are afraid that she has been badly advised, and for the benefit of others who may also have had dealings with this concern we herewith publish some interesting facts.

Reference to the files at Somerset House reveals the fact that when the last return was made there were only two directors—William Boothman Tattersall, of Clayton Lodge, the Cliffs, Southend-on-Sea, and his brother, Victor Richmond Tattersall, of 23, Cranley Road, Westcliff-on-Sea.

* * *

Previously, however, there had been two others, named Bamforth and Johnson, who resigned in July, 1924, and took over a concern called the British and Dominion of Canada Trust and Investment Corporation, at 49, Queen Victoria Street.

Almost immediately they changed the name to the British and Dominions' Investment Trust, Ltd., and moved to 27, Regent Street, W.

But names are of little consequence. All three concerns are simply bucket-shops, and the gentlemen behind them are notorious share peddlers.

The following circular, sent out by the Pall Mall Industrial Investments, Ltd., is typical of their methods.

"We fully expect to see the French franc appreciate soon to below 50 in the £." They are not only willing to impart this information to all and sundry; they will finance all and sundry up to 80 per cent. of any amount that they care to invest in francs.

Thus, any who would like to buy £500 worth of francs have only to send Pall Mall Investments £100, and they will undertake to carry out the transaction at a trifling commission of 1 per cent., with interest at 1 per cent. above Bank-rate on the loan of the balance of £400.

* * *

It is not difficult to gauge the reliability of a firm which offers to advance money at a low rate of interest in order that others may employ it profitably in speculation.

We strongly advise the public to ignore such offers and to be particularly on their guard in respect of any shares recommended through the post.

Dodging a Duty

Board of Trade's Curtness

THE Board of Trade is entrusted with the great national responsibility of safeguarding lives at sea, yet it would not appear to be discharging this responsibility in a fitting manner. The following facts shed a sinister light upon the subject and call for some censure.

It is well known that in disasters at sea great difficulty is often experienced in launching all the lifeboats safely and expeditiously owing to the inadequacy of the launching-gear under a heavily rolling or a heavily listed vessel.

Such failures of launching appliances have frequently been described at the courts of enquiry, yet the Board of Trade refuses to investigate better and safer appliances—even when inventions are freely offered for inspection.

Some two years ago, Mr. J. A. A. Hamlyn, a clever young Merchant Service officer, invented a patent launching-gear that was a marked improvement on all existing types of apparatus.

An extraordinary objection

A working model of the invention was thoroughly examined by various private groups of experienced shipmasters, and their unanimous opinion was that it was the best invention of its kind yet produced, as it rendered launching easier, speedier and safer.

The inventor forthwith sent a complete patent specification, together with drawings, to the Board of Trade for inspection, and offered to demonstrate the working model.

The inventor's papers were returned to him straight away with a curt note to the effect that the Board of Trade was "unable to consider any such invention unless submitted to them by a shipowner who proposed to fit it as part of the statutory life-saving equipment of a ship belonging to him."

This would give the impression that the Board of Trade have handed over its responsibility for the safety of lives at sea to the shipowners. In other words, it is dodging its duty.

A matter for enquiry

Unscrupulous shipowners will certainly not bother about fitting their vessels with costly safety appliances unless they are compelled to do so by law, and for the Board of Trade to leave such a vital decision in their hands is scandalous.

All inventions claiming to offer greater life-saving facilities deserve to be fully investigated, and if existing conditions can be bettered—and there is no doubt that they can be—it is the Board's duty to see that they are.

We think the matter is one that calls for a full enquiry, and that the Board of Trade should offer some explanation of its callous conduct in deliberately shirking its responsibilities.

A Cast-off Corps

War Office Breaks Faith

GIVEN the fact that several members of the Corps of Military Accountants have the same qualifications in book-keeping, it would naturally be assumed that the War Office would be the first to give preference to those who had served overseas during the Great War. Unfortunately, this is not the case.

The powers that be are showing the most inexplicable bias by keeping on non-commissioned officers, who have little or no qualifications and no overseas service, and discharging those who have the highest book-keeping diplomas and excellent Army records.

A false inducement

Men who in 1918 or 1919 could have been demobilised and have gone back to civil life with some hope of a position while still in their comparative youth, were induced to stay on and transfer to the Corps of Military Accountants on the understanding that their services would be permanent and would count towards a pension.

Now, after faithful and loyal service—which, including the war years, extends in many cases to ten or eleven, the best years of their lives—they find that they are being thrown out of employment with a gratuity of at the most £50, to start life afresh at the age of forty against younger men.

If the Army Council could not see its way to create a precedent by increasing the gratuity, it could have exhibited a much more active interest in the future of demobilised soldiers who had served them well than it has done.

The Army authorities have circulated advertisements to various daily papers stating the requirements of individuals who are being disbanded, but, beyond this, little or no effort is being made by them for their future welfare.

Is it asking too much of the War Office to suggest that they should, before disbanding an individual, find for him a position in civil life equivalent to the one he occupied in the Service?

Not a favour.

This would not be a favour, but justice, and it is justice that every man in the Service is entitled to—especially those who served overseas and went through so much during the war.

Fortunately, the last word in this matter does not remain with the Army Council, but with the taxpayer and the nation.

The sooner the Army Council realises that it is not omnipotent, and the quicker that it is reminded that in the war years the civilian soldier did much of the spadework in bringing about eventual peace and world security, the better it will be for the nation as a whole and the Army in particular.

ARTFUL ALBERT ARTHUR!

HOLROYD'S HOST OF VICTIMS

A Wangling Wizard

IN our last issue we struck a warning note in respect of a company promoter named Albert Arthur Holroyd. Since then we have made further enquiries concerning this person's activities.

Holroyd is one of the most audacious financiers we have ever come across. For the last six years at least he has thrived at the expense of poor dupes whom he has entangled in his various schemes, and the regrettable thing is that the law seems powerless to stop him.

The first venture

So lax and inadequate are the measures of the Company Registration Act that this man is permitted to live continuously on the fat of the land, to drive about in luxurious limousines—and all the while to shield his reckless company management beneath the cloak the law affords him.

Shortly after the War Holroyd embarked upon his first venture, which was known as the "Incorporated Omnium Trust Corporation U.S.A. Bankers." The headquarters in this country were in a couple of rooms at 245, Oxford Street, W.1, and the concern's telegraphic address was "Antagonism, London."

Holroyd certainly proved himself to be decidedly antagonistic when people who had been induced to invest money in his scheme began to get impatient. He put up a grim defence when disgruntled dupes asked when the great things he had promised would be forthcoming.

Directed from afar

As a spinner of plausible fairy tales, Holroyd has no equal. He told wonderful stories of the fortunes to be made through the "Incorporated Omnium Trust Corporation U.S.A. Bankers," and represented that it was busy buying up buildings all over the country which, converted into cinematograph theatres, would ultimately yield handsome profits for the investors.

Victims rolled up and poured their money into the scheme, receiving very impressive certificates in return. But those certificates were all they ever got out of the concern, for it was never recognised in this country, its directors being mostly in far-off Arizona.

No cinemas came along, and Holroyd suddenly became conspicuous by his absence from his two-roomed office in Oxford Street.

Shortly after this affair, Holroyd appeared on the scene as "Site-finders, Ltd." and the "British Properties, Ltd." Needless to say, the former found no sites and the latter had no properties, whilst both succeeded in duping a number of misguided clients.

We asked at the time why this already notorious rogue was not stopped, and why the law, if it could be misused in this way, was not strengthened. But Holroyd, smug in his security, laughed at the stories of his victims and set out to find more still.

This he did in many ways; but let us show the extent of his rascality by giving the full and exclusive story of his latest exploits, the fringe of which was touched upon in last week's issue.

We mentioned that on the failure of Holroyd's Holwin Building and Construction Co., Ltd., the statement of affairs showed unsecured liabilities amounting to £14,703, no assets at all, and a deficiency of £74,860 in respect of the shareholders!

The Rt. Hon Sir Philip Cunliffe-Lister, M.P., President of the Board of Trade

It is certain that nothing like this sum would have been involved had not Holroyd followed the procedure of other bogus company promoters by securing people with respected names as directors.

Acquainted with prison

Had the gentlemen in question—Lt.-Gen. Sir H. de la Poer Gough, K.C.B., K.C.M.G.; Lt.-Col. C. A. Reid Scott, D.S.O.; the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Carrick; Major Alexander Elphinstone of Gluck; Lt.-Col. H. K. Umfreville, D.S.O.; Col. T. W. Bonnor; and Lt.-Col. C. Unwin—chosen to make enquiries they would have found how notorious Holroyd's past was.

When Holroyd approached them he had already been adjudged bankrupt on three occasions, and in one instance had been lodged in Brixton jail for refusing to disclose certain books of account.

An assumed title

But let us give some details regarding this colossal failure. Originally the company was known as the Rautenberg International Construction Co., Ltd., and was registered in 1914. It assumed the title of the Holwin Building and Construction Company in 1923, and up till then no business had been done and no books whatever had been kept.

Holroyd was appointed contracts manager at an annual salary of £750 plus a certain percentage of the gross profits of the company. Actually he assumed control, and the eminent directors had little or no part in its management.

A secretary and accountant was appointed in March, 1924, and his salary was fixed by Holroyd at £6 10s. per week. At present this unfortunate gentleman still has a certain amount due to him.

Holroyd claimed to be the owner of two provisional patents in connection with building and road construction, and these he arranged to sell to the company.

As, however, the company had no cash resources, Holroyd was paid by the allotment of 49,850 preference shares and 102,000 ordinary shares, which were credited as fully paid up.

Later Holroyd bought some land at Dagenham, Essex, together with certain machinery and buildings, paying for it with 4,000 of the shares that had been allotted to him for his inventions!

Agreement broken

He agreed to buy these shares back at par within three months, but this he failed to do, and the vendor commenced an action against him. As a result, the court made an order directing Holroyd to deliver up the property, which he did.

The company next contracted to erect certain hotel buildings in the vicinity of the British Empire Exhibition at Wembley, but at the time of its winding-up nothing had been acomplished beyond preliminary excavations on the sites.

It had also entered into contract to purchase some land in Leicester with a view to forming a subsidiary company for erecting houses. This company never materialised and no part of the purchase price of the land was ever paid.

A cheque for deposit £41,223 was, however, tendered on the understanding that it should be held up for a few days to enable the company to procure the necessary funds. Holroyd stated that he felt certain the money could be raised, but the cheque was, of course, dishonoured.

Although this Leicester scheme never materialised, Holroyd obtained £960 in deposits from prospective tenants who had been attracted by advertisements he had inserted in the *Leicester Mail*.

With Holroyd at the helm, and with such gross mismanagement, it is small wonder that the Holwin Building and Construction Co. came to grief. Most of the cash received by the company was squandered, and no proper books were ever kept.

Evidence at hand

But what does all this matter to a man like Holroyd, who, to give an instance of his enterprise, three weeks before the company went smash induced a man to invest £100 in return for a clerkship? What does it matter to Holroyd that he has ruined and duped a thousand victims?

But his present activities ought to be brought to a halt. The Board of Trade would do well to look into the various concerns with which he has been associated, and if possible probe the reasons for their untimely ends.

If they are short of data, we shall be pleased to place at their disposal our bulky dossiers.

HUGE FRAUD HUSHED UP

WHY COUNCILLORS EXCLUDED THE PRESS

A Rate-Robbing Rogue

IT is over three months since Stanley Dring Campion, a rate-collector for the borough of Stoke Newington, disappeared with £7,306 of the council's funds.

At the time we strongly criticised the authorities for their laxity which had resulted in this terrific loss and demanded a full explanation as to how such a theft was possible.

We have had to wait for the report of the district auditor, who has been investigating the whole matter, and now that it is in our hands we hasten to draw public attention to facts which reveal gross mismanagement on the part of the authorities concerned.

The frauds began in September, 1924, when Campion failed to account at the proper date for thirty-two sums, of which twenty-three were received by cheque, and £289 of this money was not accounted for by him at the close of the rate.

The twenty-three cheques were paid in, but cash of equal amount was held back by Campion, who gave the ratepayers receipts from extra books that were in his possession.

Later on his misappropriations were on a much larger scale, and during his last nine weeks he took £5,703!

Inexplicable conduct

All along his procedure consisted chiefly in omitting to account for cheques received, and converting these cheques into currency by substituting them for cash in banking the money which he was bringing into account.

The district auditor states in his report that these frauds were rendered possible simply because the council had not employed a borough accountant to prepare their chief accounts.

The town clerk was left to deal with matters which, in other parts of London, are entrusted to responsible department officers. Why the Stoke Newington authorities failed to follow a procedure adopted by all other metropolitan borough councils seems inexplicable.

But the most scandalous disclosure of the report is that, just before Campion commenced his frauds, copies of the "Payments into Bank Order" were received from the Minister of Health.

The patient ass

This was an order specially issued to prevent frauds of this nature, and if it had been acted upon Campion's defalcations would have been detected in the early stages. But, apparently, the order was filed without even being brought to the notice of the council or the Finance Committee!

The blame for this omission is placed upon the town clerk, but we have already pointed out that this individual was burdened with far greater responsibilities than he should have been called upon to bear, and we have no hesitation in laying much of the blame elsewhere.

It is the council who must be called to account for everything. It is entirely due to their gross mismanagement and slip-shod methods that this titanic fraud was perpetrated. They are the real offenders, and should be made to answer for their negligence.

We can understand why they excluded the Press when their special committee gathered to discuss the district auditor's report. And we can understand their chagrin when the details they had hoped to suppress are now fully and frankly reported.

We can see no justification for attempting to withhold the truth from the ratepayers whose money has been lost through the sheer carelessness and inefficiency of the council.

The scandal is all the more serious in view of the fact that the Stoke Newington local authorities are notorious for the way they badger poor ratepayers into paying their rates.

Some poor fellows, struggling to keep their wives and children from hunger, have been sent to jail for not paying when they had no money with which to pay. This article will make fine reading for such as they.

The "clean sweep" candidates, and several new members elected at the recent election, are naturally enough now advocating open diplomacy. We sincerely hope that they will live up to this.

But one thing must be done without any delay.

Methods to be scrapped

The old system of haphazard bungling must be scrapped, and an adequate and efficient method of safeguarding the ratepayers' money must be introduced.

If the present council do this we shall have some faith in their sincerity; meanwhile, those who have been responsible for this gross and palpable mismanagement should not be allowed to go uncensured.

And another point. When is Campion going to be arrested and made to stand his trial?

Bloodsuckers' Blarney

Interest at 80 per cent.

A GRIM report reaches us concerning a firm of financiers known as the "B" Advance Company, Ltd., of Belfast, which delights in lending simple Irish folk large sums of money in exchange for promissory notes.

The reason for its delight may be gathered from the following case, which recently came before the Derry Recorder's Court, when it sued for the recovery of £70 from John Friel, of Derry.

This unfortunate man, ignorant of the methods of moneylenders, approached the "B" Advance Company, in January, 1923, and requested a loan.

He actually received £50 in cash, and was persuaded to sign a promissory note for £70 for six months.

* * *

At the end of every six months Friel paid £20 and renewed the note for £70. Up to January last he had paid £80, and again renewed the promissory note. Now, the sharkish moneylenders claimed that they were entitled to the full £70! or, in other words, they demanded interest at 80 per cent.

His Honour Judge Osborne, K.C., who heard the case, stated that he had never heard of a more extraordinary document than this promissory note.

* * *

The note held that Friel promised to pay the "B" Advance Company "the sum of £70 for value received by the following consecutive six months' instalments of £70 on July 14, 1923, and the like sum of £70 on each and every succeeding six months, until the whole sum of £70 be fully paid, and, in case default be made in payment in each or either of such instalments, the whole sum of £70 or so much thereof as shall then be remaining unpaid shall become due and payable immediately."

His Honour confessed that he failed to see how a sum of £70 could be paid at consecutive six monthly instalments of £70. He further remarked that, if money were to be lent and the borrower to sign a promissory note, a clear and ordinary promissory note should be adopted to show perfectly plainly what the liability of the borrower was.

His Honour was not satisfied that Friel was aware that the interest in this case was 80 per cent., and he thought that he was entitled to relief. He accordingly fixed the interest at 50 per cent. and gave a decree for £8 8s. 11d.

* * *

So, although it has received £80 in return for the £50 advanced, the "B" Advance Company has not yet lost its clutch on Friel.

It is surprising that his Honour, after expressing himself so strongly on the transaction, should have so encouraged these extortioners by admitting interest at 50 per cent. We are afraid that "B" Advance Company will go on securing fresh victims whilst it receives such encouragement.

A Mockery of Justice

Tips for the Police

LONDON is seething with vile dens and bogus hotels—many of them run by aliens—where immorality is not only encouraged but catered for.

These abound in the Eastbourne Terrace district of Paddington; Star Street, Edgware Road; Parksdown Road, Maida Vale; Upper Gloucester Terrace, Marylebone; Euston Road, W.C.; Great Russell Street, W.C.; Coram Street, Tottenham Court Road; St. Martin's Lane, W.C.; Jermyn Street, Piccadilly; Villiers Street, Strand; Waterloo Road, S.E., and so on.

These places should be raided and closed down, and if the police require more specific information we have it in our hands and shall be happy to supply them with it.

Meanwhile we think it necessary to give some publicity to a case which has come to our notice regarding a "swagger" den of indescribable filth known as "The Cottage," Biddulph Road, Paddington.

Moving in society

This resort was run by Daisy Tritton, a married woman, assisted by Annie Hanover, of Abbey Lane, Kilburn, who was in her employ as a "maid-servant."

"The Cottage" was lavishly furnished, and Mrs. Tritton was able to dress very extravagantly and to move in high-class society circles. She obtained regular and substantial allowances from certain wealthy men who had succumbed to her vicious charms.

These payments alone were sufficient to keep her in luxury, yet she resorted to the practice of catering for rich Satyrs at her den, most of whom were men who moved in wealthy and exclusive circles.

After many complaints had been received the police raided her place, and Mrs. Tritton and Annie Hanover were brought up before Mr. Hay Halkett.

Justice mocked

A noisome feature of the case was the disclosure that her twenty-two-year-old daughter was used to decoy men to go to "The Cottage" to meet a number of loose but fashionably dressed women who were always on the premises.

Mrs. Tritton pleaded guilty and was sent to jail for two months. Annie Hanover, who was found guilty of assisting her, was fined 5s. with 55s. costs.

* * *

What a mockery of justice! Why was the magistrate so lenient, when he admitted that it was a most disgusting case?

If the police pay attention to the dens in the districts we have mentioned above, we hope that the magistrates will enforce more suitable sentences than Mr. Hay Halkett has done in this case, otherwise their efforts to close down these dens of infamy will be in vain.

Offenders of this sort must be firmly dealt with.

Barker's Bites

Would-be Pupils Hoaxed

AN unusual form of roguery is being practised by a gentleman named G. Murray Barker, of 2, Park Parade, Wembley Hill, Middlesex; 298, High Road, Chiswick, and various other addresses. He is behind the following advertisement, which has appeared in the *Daily Telegraph*:

"Gentleman (young) required. Experience unnec. Tuition given. Invest £200, returnable. Sal. £4 p.w., comm. Permanent. — B., Box 6128, *Daily Telegraph* Kiosk, B.E.E., Wembley."

A Goodmayes reader named Wilkin who answered this advertisement found Mr. Barker to be a dentist, and was informed that his business was an old-established one.

A false claim

Barker declared that he could teach Wilkin mechanical dentistry in six months on condition that he paid £200 premium; but when he learnt that Wilkin's sole capital was £50 he hastily agreed to accept that sum and to pay him a salary of £2 per week.

At the end of six months Wilkin was to have the option of taking up a position, according to his ability, in charge of a work-room.

Up to now, Wilkin has received no dentistry instruction from Barker, and the only duties consist of cleaning out the waiting-room.

As far as he can see, Barker has no practice. He makes appointments with patients over the 'phone, but is invariably out when they call to see him.

This experience is shared by a Gunnersbury reader named Crowther, who paid Barker £40 on similar terms. There is also a "branch manager" at 139, High Road, Wembley, who invested £200 on the understanding that he was to receive tuition and £4 per week.

He knows no dentistry, and has received no salary. The others received odd and irregular payments after much pressure.

It is clear that Barker exists solely on the money he obtains from these and other dupes. Any dental plates or sets of teeth that he makes are promptly returned as useless.

New schemes

We believe his real name to be Arthur Fenton Aldridge, and three years ago he was occupying rooms in the West End and trading as the American Dental Chambers. Later on, he described himself as secretary of the Mutual Benefit Association.

Throughout his career he seems to have been involved in financial difficulties, and we have record of numerous county court judgments against him for debt.

Presumably he has tired of dealing with money-lenders, and has turned to his present scheme for "raising the wind." He has been too successful in this, and we should like to see an end put to his rascally activities.

TRAGIC NAVAL BLUNDER

WHAT THE FIRST LORD FORGOT

Economy We Can't Afford

IF the Admiralty's proposal to close Pembroke Dockyard is accepted by the Government it will spell black ruin for a community of 16,000 people who have no other industry, and who have been gathered together purely for the purpose of serving the needs of His Majesty's Navy.

The claim made by the Admiralty is that they will save £60,000 a year by the closing of the dockyard; but the local corporation point out that, on the contrary, the closing will cost the Government £72,850.

After full and careful investigation, we have no hesitation in siding with the people of Pembroke.

We have only to look back and consider the reductions made in 1921 to realise how vital this question is. 1,300 men were discharged then, and at least 800 of these have been unable to find work and are still in the town drawing unemployment pay.

Things that are forgotten

The closing of the yard means the transfer to other dockyards of about 500 established men and the discharge of 800 hired men, all of whom will be added to the list of unemployed. Because of the special nature of their work and the great slump in shipbuilding, these men cannot be absorbed into other industries for a very considerable time.

The transfer of 500 men to other yards will be a very costly business for the Government, as each man is allowed £30 for removal expenses and 15s. a week until he is able to obtain a house.

The housing shortage is acute in each of the dockyard towns to which these men will be sent, and will be made worse than ever by these moves. But if they are retained in Pembroke Dock, where there is ample accommodation, this difficulty and the separation of the men from their families would be avoided.

The people of Pembroke have supplied all the accommodation for the workmen. 1,600 houses belong to workmen or dockyard pensioners, and the remainder—900 in number—are owned by tradespeople and others who serve the needs of the community.

The Right Hon. W. C. Bridgeman, M.P., First Lord of the Admiralty

These houses represent a capital value of £1,000,000 at least, and have been built out of the life-savings of the people, who still owe £35,000 to their local building society.

If the dockyard is closed without any provision of alternative employment, the place will be denuded of wage-earners, the whole population will be ruined, and the town will ultimately become derelict.

Can the Admiralty have considered these things?

An expensive saving

The Admiralty admits that no saving is anticipated for at least two years after the closing of the dockyard. But unemployment pay to the discharged men and to others indirectly affected will amount to at least £72,850, as we have pointed out already.

Now, we are not concerned with the question of whether Pembroke Dockyard can be dispensed with. What we are concerned with is the future of those humble servants of the Crown whose lives and interests are centred in the town of their birth.

The Admiralty and the Government *must* fulfil their moral obligations to the people of Pembroke. To close the dockyard and conveniently forget the people would be criminal. It simply must not happen.

The best possible solution of the difficulty, and one which could easily be applied, is for the dockyard to be converted for some commercial undertaking. Why should the extensive range of joining-shops, fitting-shops, forges, foundries, saw-mills, generating-stations, paint shops, varnishing and polishing rooms be scrapped when they could speedily be converted?

The remedy sugges ed

The dockyard comprises eighty-one acres, is well linked up with railway sidings, and is wonderfully equipped throughout. There are giant cranes, derricks, etc., and the machinery is up to date and in excellent condition.

The dockyard's situation has everything in its favour. The jetties have a water depth of 36 ft. at low tide, and the dock is only nine miles from the open sea. It has a fine natural harbour which, unlike Fishguard, offers a safe haven in bad weather.

We believe that several enterprising firms have already considered the possibilities of Pembroke as a new centre of industry, and we demand that the Government shall do all in its power to encourage such enterprise.

Until they have thoroughly investigated this possibility there must be no more talk of closing Pembroke Dockyard.

Through the Back Door

Schemes to Outwit the Law

THE efforts of the wily and unscrupulous employment agencies who specially cater for the placing of foreign girls in English situations are endless in their attempts to evade the English law.

Quite recently the Home Office has been making a special effort and tightening up the regulations in order to put up a stronger bar against foreign girls who come to England and obtain lucrative positions.

On the other hand, a foreign girl—and there are many such who wish to come to England to take up a situation for mutual benefit—may or may not, as the authorities decide, be permitted to enter the country.

* * *

The applicant generally takes a job as a governess, teaches French or German, and in return receives her board and the opportunity for learning English. Even in these cases, the employer often evades the issue by giving her what he calls "pocket money," which is any amount up to about £2 per month.

Through the courtesy of a firm whose reputation is beyond reproach, we are able to expose two brand-new methods of evading the law.

This firm has quite recently received a letter from a Swiss girl in Switzerland, who states that she has learnt "through friends," and advises the English firm to adopt, two methods which, on her supposition, are the only ones by which foreign girls can be sure of entering this country without any awkward questions being asked.

* * *

She writes: "Why don't you get the employer to write a letter to the girl and another to her parents, claiming old acquaintanceship and suggesting that the daughter shall come to England as the employer's guest on a visit of considerable length?"

The second method is for the girl to arrange to come to England as a paying-guest. This method is a little more elaborate, but is again supported by a tissue of fabrications.

The agent in England writes to the girl abroad and suggests to her or her parents their writing to an employer in Great Britain who has already been found.

This she does and arranges that she shall come to England as a paying-guest to learn the language. Terms are arranged in the correspondence, which is produced as a proof of the girl's *bona fides* by her employer.

Having safely settled in England, the position becomes somewhat changed. The employer becomes the payer and the girl the payee.

* * *

Fortunately, these methods of evading the regulations set up to safeguard the interests of English girls are new, and it is hoped that the authorities will take due cognisance of the fact.

MORE CLUBS TO RAID

OUR SLASHING CAMPAIGN

Vanderland Still Wandering

SCARCELY in the history of journalism has a campaign undertaken by any journal in the public interest achieved such amazing and speedy results as those which have followed our renewed attack upon night clubs, which started in these columns a few weeks back.

It will be remembered that we deplored the fact that the Home Secretary, despite his repeated promises, had done nothing tangible to stop the activities of night club promoters — many of whom are ex-convicts with shocking records.

At the same time, in order to show that the evil was only too real, we named den after den where the law was being broken, and pressed for greater measures to enable the police to take adequate action.

A sensation was created in the "sham" club world. The police acted promptly and the majority of the dens we specifically denounced have since been raided and their proprietors convicted.

Enormous profits

The worst of these haunts was the Radio Club, at 55, Old Compton Street, described by us as the "Devil's Basement." The proprietors, Reginald Phillips, alias Dudeney, Ernest Charles Hooper and Reginald Alfred Prosser were all summoned recently at Great Marlborough Street Police Court for selling alcoholic liquor without a licence.

In the course of the proceedings many interesting details came to light. The small, underground room which constituted this "club" was rented at £8 a month, and as hundreds of people crowded into this place to obtain drink when respectable publicans had closed their doors, one can gather that the profits must have been enormous.

At the time of the raid, the names and addresses of thirty people who were consuming liquor were taken. Most of them were found to be false, which is not really surprising. All the defendants who turned up in court were fined, and Mr. Mead, the magistrate, ordered the club to be struck off the register.

A connecting link

Another den which the police have visited since our exposures is the "Havinoo Club" in Ham Yard, Piccadilly, a locality that is seething with noisome dens—the Oak Club, the Premier Club, the Last Club and the Pavilion Club—all of which thrive because of the present inadequate state of the law.

The "Havinoo Club," a resort of the lowest type of men and women, has as one of its leading lights the notorious Freddy Ford, who only recently came out of jail after serving four months for running the Cursitor Club and the New Avenue Club. Apart from sentences for housebreaking, etc., he has also served five years for malicious wounding.

Recently we demanded the deportation of a Dutchman named Vanderland, who has been fined in connection with the sham "Movie Club," which was conducted in a basement next door to the Radio Club in Old Compton Street. But in spite of our strong warnings he is still mixing with thugs and thieves in the evil haunts of Soho.

He is constantly to be seen in a new club known as the London Commercial Club, which has its headquarters at 50, Old Compton Street. Although this place is not as bad as the Radio or the Movie it would be absolutely unable to justify its existence if the Home Secretary introduced the vital legislation we have demanded.

Until recently, many of the undesirable members of the Radio Club were in the habit of visiting a place at 1, Southchurch Road, Southend-on-Sea. This was known as the Stafford Hall Social Club, and its link with the Radio is explained by the interesting fact that Reginald Phillips is connected with the management.

Circulars were distributed to members of the Radio, informing them that they had been "elected" honorary members of the Stafford Hall Social Club, and inviting them to introduce others.

Another resort outside London is the West Lodge Club at Ealing Green. This is run by a man named Gordon Hewart, whose past record is decidedly shady.

The repeated promise

The police have shown that they are ready to act promptly, and considering the difficult conditions under which they are compelled to work, they have done remarkably well.

A deputation from the London Council of Public Morality waited upon the Home Secretary the other day to urge him to take action in the matter—just as we have constantly done through the medium of these pages.

Sir William Joynson-Hicks stated that he was determined to use all the power at his command to deal with clubs of doubtful character, and the deputation had to be content with a promise that has been made a hundred times before.

And in the House of Commons on the 19th ult., the Home Secretary was asked whether it was his intention to introduce legislation in this respect. His reply is equally indefinite. "I am not at present in a position to make any statement on the subject."

Will he ever be?

A Triple Discovery

Reader Sums Us Up!

NEW readers of JOHN BULL who accepted our offer of a 10s. 6d. Gillette Razor Set free have made three pleasant discoveries.

They have learned that the gift itself is vastly more acceptable and of greater value than anything ever distributed in similar circumstances.

They have become registered under an insurance scheme in itself worth more than the price paid for the paper.

Above all, they have been introduced to a journal which, in these days of Press subsidies and trustifications, is unique in its freedom of expression.

We have already quoted from some of the tributes sent by our new friends, for we can call them that. Here is one more, from E. B. C., of Blackpool.

Fair Play and Equal Justice.

"If a magistrate allows rank or wealth to influence his verdicts, he has to settle with JOHN BULL. If a beast or a scoundrel is not punished according to his deserts, JOHN BULL speaks with no uncertain voice on the matter. If the poorest subject in the realm does not receive justice, several millions are soon aware of the fact.

The Straight Deal.

"Many a moneylender, many a bogus company promoter, many a vendor of worthless trash, has cursed the existence of such a paper. The record of some of the 'sharks' is better known in Long Acre than in Scotland Yard.

Britain's Best Interests.

"Who is constantly showing us the danger of buying the larger part of our food from foreign nations, while our own land is under-cultivated, and the men who might cultivate it are idly existing on a demoralising subsidy? If tragedy does come because we fail to develop the resources of our country and Empire, no one can say that JOHN BULL did not give ample warning.

Clean, Healthy Conditions of Living.

"The aim of our paper is that every honest Britisher shall have a healthy job, work under decent conditions, and have a 'home' for his wife and kiddies. Shameful and indecent overcrowding, the horrors of slumdom, the agony of sweated labour, will continue to be attacked until they have disappeared for ever.

Peace.

"The madness of preparing for another war far more terrible than the last, the continued waste of money, brains and life in the interests of a glorified savagery that is a disgrace to our civilisation and an insult to our Christianity, the sheer lunacy of the whole thing you will find clearly exposed in JOHN BULL.

"The above (adds E. B. C.) are just five reasons out of many. A paper that stands for so much, and enters a million homes every week, is a tremendous force for good."

Witless Waifs

Prurience and its Prey

THE wretched plight of the mentally defective child, allowed to roam at large among its more fortunate fellows, was painfully illustrated at the recent Exeter Assizes in a case to which we might hesitate to give further publicity but for the express desire of Mr. Justice Rowlatt that the facts should be made widely known.

In complying with his lordship's request, many newspapers seem to have missed the wider bearings of the case, which had a graver importance than was evident from the specific charge with which the learned judge had to deal.

Scoundrel's easy victims

John Samuel Stephen, a Plymouth hammerman, pleaded guilty to a series of offences against children. The details of the charge are unprintable. The point, however, to which public attention should be directed is that three of the victims of this atrocious crime were young girls who notoriously were mentally deficient.

Devoid of intelligence and of that instinctive sense of right and wrong which is the possession of the normal child, these poor demented creatures had fallen easy victims to an unspeakable fate.

It was clear that, with black-hearted cunning, Stephens had selected these demented creatures because he imagined they would submit passively to his assaults, afterwards "telling no tales."

Police-court records confirm this conclusion, and suggest that far too little use is being made of the Mental Deficiency Act, framed for the purpose of protecting the defective child from the special perils belonging to its undeveloped mental and moral nature.

In sentencing John Samuel Stephens to five years' penal servitude Mr. Justice Rowlatt expressed regret that he had no power to deal with the poor stunted mites who came before him as witnesses of the scoundrel's depravity.

It is equally a matter for regret that parents and the public generally should so frequently be ignorant of the provisions of the Mental Deficiency Act under which children of this type may, with the consent of their natural guardians, be cared for in public institutions where they will be out of harm's way.

Perilous evasion

Everyone is sorry when children have to be exposed to the ordeal of the witness-box, but a delicate firmness in pressing these charges home is preferable to the shifty evasion recently adopted by the Commissioner of Assize at Hereford, who accepted a plea of guilty on a minor charge rather than hear what children had to say of the beastly conduct of James Berrington, a sixty-year-old gamekeeper.

The hush-hush policy in these matters can go too far. Abuses like those to which Mr. Justice Rowlatt calls attention must be squarely faced if they are to be effectually removed.

A Real Religion for All

By RABBI ISRAEL I. MATTUCK, A.M., D.H.L.

IF the practice of old beliefs was more prominent in the matters of everyday life there would be no demand for a new creed. Because of the hypocrisy of some of its professors organised religion fails to attract

THERE are so many people who have nothing to do with churches or synagogues that we wonder whether the religion which the churches and synagogues teach has outlived its usefulness.

Unthinking people constitute a special difficulty for religion. If they are attached to religion, they tend to turn it into superstition; if they are away from it, they have no interests other than money or pleasure.

Religion tries to teach these people, but if it fails it can excuse its failure by the plea that it cannot teach those who have not the desire or capacity to learn.

But why are there so many thinking people who will have nothing to do with religion? Some time ago a man who had attained success in business confessed to me wistfully that he deeply longed for religion. He had it as a boy, but later he lost the faith of his childhood; and he had not found another. He wanted what religion could give. His desire showed that the spirit of faith was alive in him.

That is true of many. There is often much religion in people who are not religious; sometimes even more than in others who are. Honest doubt is better than indifferent faith. I almost said that it is a greater service to religion to disbelieve honestly than to believe indifferently.

Ignorant criticism

I have two complaints against thinking people who are outside religion. First, they often show the fault that they do not like in religion; they are dogmatic. Secondly, they criticise the beliefs of yesterday or the day before; they do not seem to know the beliefs of to-day. Religion is slow enough to progress, but its critics are still slower.

Here is an example taken from some articles published recently by a London paper in which ten well-known novelists describe their religions. One of the writers wants a new religion because he cannot believe in heaven and hell.

Presumably he means the heaven and hell of which he learned when a child. The one is a place where the good will have tea with smiling angels to the music of harps; the other a place where the bad will be toasted for the delectation of grinning imps. Most people nowadays who believe in religion do not believe in this heaven or hell; it is only others who think they do.

Many of us would agree with the writer I have quoted when he says: "In a balance of probabilities I am inclined to accept the theory of a future life; and I am fairly sure that, if indeed there is a future life, my conduct in this present life will materially affect the nature of it."

We should put it something like this: We hope for immortality, with a further chance to overcome the evil and establish the good in us.

Professors not practisers

The religions we know best have suffered much at the hands of their friends. There are those who believe in religion, but do not practise it—the employer who goes to church or synagogue regularly, but does not pay a decent wage to the people who work for him, or the working man who also goes to church or synagogue, but does not give an honest day's work for an honest wage; or the man who on Sunday believes in all that the creeds say and on Monday forgets all the commandments.

The species known as religious hypocrites is not yet extinct. There are hypocrites who are not religious; there are bad employers and dishonest workers who are not religious.

But we expect much more from religious people. That is why the religious hypocrite is the worst kind of hypocrite. If you point out to him that he does not do on Monday what he is told on Sunday, he answers, "You cannot mix religion with business."

On the other hand, we must not forget the many people who do try to practise their religion in their business or work or profession. Some years ago I was told of a simple but charming act in business by a religious man.

Heretics who help

A merchant friend of mine told me this: He had sold a bill of Christmas goods to a customer in Glasgow. When the prices and all other details had been settled the customer said: "Now, Mr. E., will you please add £50 to my bill and divide the money among your working-men for Christmas?"

Another class that does religion great harm consists of people who make of it a belief in antiquated ideas, and the practice of antiquated rites. They are sincere according to their lights; but even sincerity is not a guarantee of wisdom.

In the nature of religion, dogmas are unavoidable; it is just a name for ideas. But they become a hindrance—and worse—when they are changed from ideas one believes into words one must say, from sincere thoughts into formal recitations, from belief into make-believe.

That is why changes become necessary, to maintain the connection between religion and truth. Here is where the heretics help. They are a challenge to religion, and in meeting that challenge religion finds its best.

God bless the heretics, they make religion progress! Almost every great religious movement we know of began with a heretic. The lesson they give is this: Religion cannot live on texts; it lives on the thoughts and longings of living minds and hearts.

Destructive controversy

Not long ago the world was amused by the trial in an American court of law, Genesis *versus* Evolution. The counsel for the plaintiff spoke in the name of religion, saying that religion demanded belief in the first chapter of Genesis. By this insistence, he and others like him do not hurt the theory of evolution, but they do great damage to religion.

Religion does not mean belief in the literal truth of all parts of the Bible. To give the impression that it does makes many turn against it. The liberal religions that I know are on the side of evolution. They try to combine historic religions with modern thought. Can they supply the new religion?

What we need is a religion that will make clear to all men the fundamentals of the human spirit and human life. They are the love of God and the love of man. The two are inseparable. The old Jewish prophets taught that. Jesus summed up His teaching in them.

If religion had always emphasised these demands above all else what a better world we should have now! If all the thought which has gone into theological controversies had been put into teaching the commandment: "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself," many of the evils from which our society suffers would long ago have been destroyed.

Rabbi Israel I. Mattuck, A.M.

If all the energy that went into the observance of special ceremonies had gone into simple acts of kindness and into the pursuit of justice, we should have come nearer to the kingdom of God.

Making life worth while

There are, however, large differences of opinion among men about the character of God. In humble reverence we must hesitate to define Him too closely. But all agree that He requires justice, mercy and humility.

What do we ask from religion? That it should feed the human spirit with the beauty, goodness and truth in the universe, in the lives of men, and in the achievements of the human race.

We need that instruction to make life worth while, to make its hardships endurable, to give us the strength we require for living. We need it to help us work for righteousness, kindness and peace among men.

If the old religions cannot give it to us, a new one will arise. Men cannot long be without religion and retain their humanity. As the spirit of man cannot die, so religion cannot die; for it is the answer the spirit gives to the puzzles and problems of the universe and in human life.

The best parts of our civilisation are built upon a religious foundation; the parts we are ashamed of were built in defiance of the demands of religion. Why did not religion prevent the evils of the industrial system? Why did it not prevent or abolish wars?

Old roads, new paths

We need a religion that will do these things, and so add to the good things which the older religions have achieved, still further good. This religion will not be altogether new, but it will be a larger expression of some very old truths; and it will show itself in a morality that shall give direction for the new and important social and moral problems with which the world is faced.

Among other things, it will show how we can apply in industrial relations, in the dealings between nations, and in the attitude of men to man, the commandment, "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself," on the principle that God made us all—to be men!

Candid Communications

Outspoken Messages to Celebrities, Notorieties and, occasionally, Nonentities

To the Rt. Hon. STANLEY BALDWIN, M.P., 10, Downing Street, S.W.

DEAR PRIME MINISTER,—Unless you have a plan of your own for protecting the consumer against rings and combines which force up prices, you might do worse than take a leaf out of the book of the Danish Premier. A Bill before the Danish Parliament prohibits agreements between traders for the purpose of increasing prices, and where prices are already excessive invokes the aid of the criminal law. Is there any just cause or impediment why the British housewife should not enjoy similar protection? JOHN BULL.

To the Rt. Hon. Sir SAMUEL HOARE, M.P., Secretary for Air.

SIR,—I don't know whether you expect Englishmen to feel a thrill of pride on learning that bombing operations by the Royal Air Force against helpless native tribesmen on the north-west frontier have been "most satisfactory." What you mean, I suppose, is that a large number of natives have been butchered in cold blood. If I were you I wouldn't make quite such a song about it. It isn't even war. JOHN BULL.

To the Rt. Hon. Sir A. STEEL-MAITLAND, M.P., Minister of Labour.

DEAR SIR ARTHUR,—It is not to be expected that the Scottish shale and oil workers should accept a 10 per cent. wage reduction without protest. Now it appears that the employers are proposing a conference, but they insist that the men shall consent to work at the lower wage while the matter is being talked over. This is unreasonable. Negotiation should precede, not follow, a wage cut. It is up to you to see that the workers get fair play. JOHN BULL.

To the Rt. Hon. NEVILLE CHAMBERLAIN, M.P., Minister of Health.

SIR,—I am glad you are taking steps to test the quality of the physic supplied to panel patients. An insured person has as good a right to a square deal from the chemist as a private customer, and it is plainly your business to see that he gets it. There have been far too many complaints of sharp practice in this connection, and you have acted not a moment too soon. JOHN BULL.

To President CALVIN COOLIDGE, White House, Washington.

DEAR MR. COOLIDGE,—No one will quarrel with your contention that the United States "ought not to lend money for militaristic or unproductive ventures." What some of us do suggest is that you might very well lend more moral aid than you have yet done to Europe's efforts to lift herself out of the bog of militarism on to firmer ground. Keep aloof if you must, but don't befog the issue. It's not your money we want. JOHN BULL.

To Rt. Rev. A. F. WINNINGTON-INGRAM, D.D., Bishop of London.

MY LORD BISHOP,—A little late in the day you are endeavouring to rouse the conscience of the Church over the housing question. If the bishops and clergy were a little less polite they would be a much greater force in the land. It is no use preaching sweetness and light to men and women doomed to live and die in the squalor of the slums. JOHN BULL.

To the Rt. Hon. JOSIAH WEDGWOOD, M.P., Beaufort House, S.W.

DEAR "JOSH,"—I am in entire sympathy with your inclination to "hold this Government by the throat" till it has redeemed its pledges on the question of unemployment; and I wish more members of the House of Commons would adopt the same uncompromising attitude. Representatives of Labour who can discuss the betrayal of the workless millions in terms of easy politeness must not be surprised if they incur suspicion. JOHN BULL.

To Dr. DALEY, Medical Officer, Hull.

DEAR SIR,—You have caught the new idea. You recognise that the father of a family should take equal responsibility with the mother in its upbringing, and if the baby cries he should not shirk his duty by going for a walk. You, with the assistance of a lady doctor, intend to give lectures on "What every father should know." Good luck to your effort. It's needed. JOHN BULL.

To His Honour Judge CLUER, Whitechapel County Court.

DEAR SIR,—When a youth of seventeen lost two finger-tips you refused to settle the matter for £65 out of hand, and said the action must be heard. "Would the respondent like to lose a portion of his finger for £65?" you enquired. "Let a guillotine be brought into court and we will put him to the test." I like your humour. After the fashion of Solomon, it tells in favour of the poor. JOHN BULL.

To Colonel H. J. STONE, J.P., Romford.

DEAR SIR,—When John Bright, of South Hornchurch, was summoned for keeping a dog without a licence, you found the poor fellow had been out of work for some time and could not pay for his pet. To keep the law you fined him, but paid the money yourself. This was a humane act, and as Bright showed attachment to his dog, I trust something will be done to put him in the way of a job. JOHN BULL.

To WILLIAM CHARLES HOWLING, Brighton.

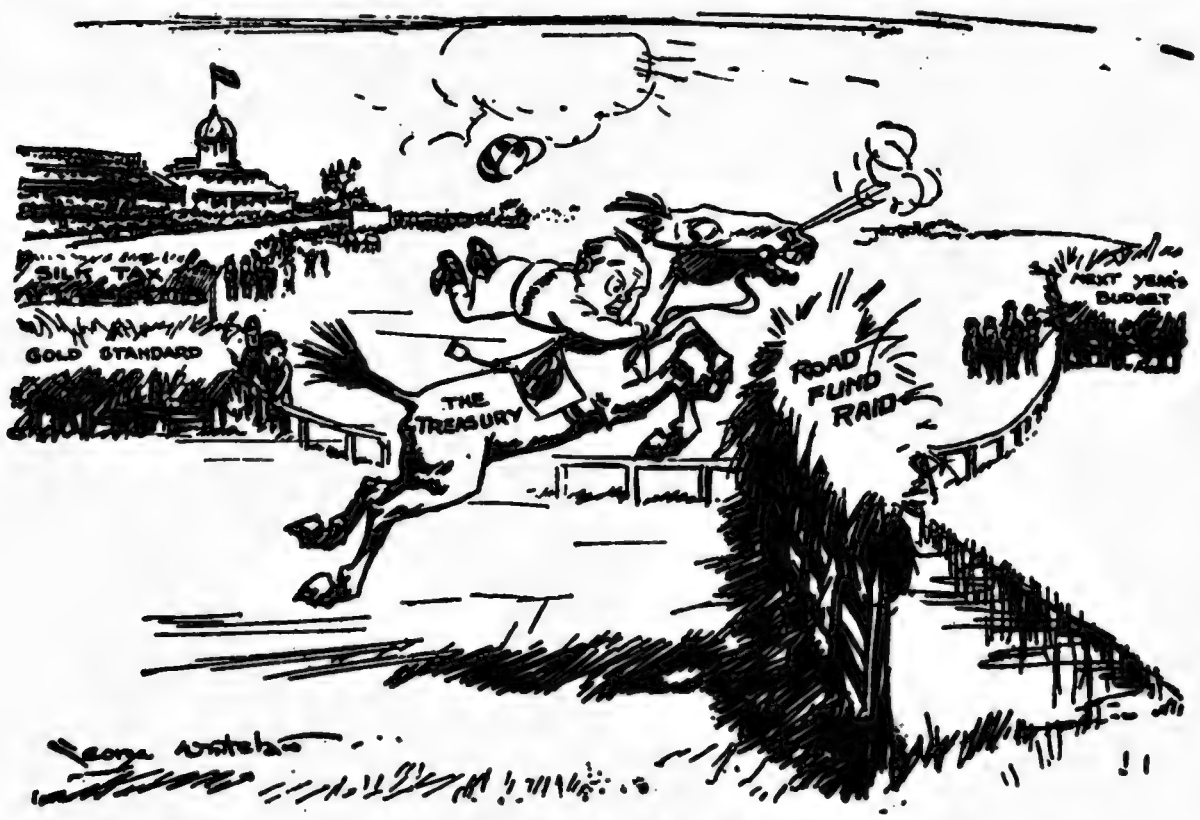
SIR,—You are an unmitigated young scoundrel. You admit intimacy with Ivy Eleanor Harding, a pretty young woman, of Upper Clapton, but when the poor girl asked you, over the 'phone, if you would marry her you roughly refused, even telling her you would not "bother" to see her. This, as the coroner stated at her inquest, had something to do with her taking the terrible step of suicide. I hope in consequence your conscience is "bothering" you. JOHN BULL.

To Miss JANE RABY, Poultenay Street, Bath.

DEAR MISS RABY,—I wish there were more like you! Six years ago you became a happy centenarian, and now in your hundred and seventh year you have been appointed a governor of Charing Cross Hospital. This signal honour has been conferred in recognition of your great interest in the work of the institution. People like you can't easily be spared, and I hope you will live for many years to carry on the good work. JOHN BULL.

To THOMAS DAVIES, Swansea.

DEAR THOMAS,—You are a lad of parts. While at your work you noticed a six-year-old child struggling in the canal. You leapt over the bridge, plunged 12 ft. to the rescue, and saved the little one. Then, without fuss, you went home for dry clothes and returned to your job. It was the action of a man. JOHN BULL.



RIDING FOR A FALL!

Straight from the Shoulder

MR. JUSTICE SHEARMAN:—"The only object of punishment is to preserve the safety of the public."

In which case our present penal system is proving a ghastly failure.

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LORD PARMOOR:—"I hold that submarines should be banned by all civilised nations."

Any nation using submarines cannot claim to be civilised.

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MR. NEVILLE CHAMBERLAIN:—"The Pensions Act is an antidote to Socialism."

Rot. The Pensions Act is merely the beginning of a reform of the Poor Law.

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MRS. WHEATLEY:—"I fear even the Socialist movement may become Conservative."

Others fear the Conservative movement is turning Socialist, which shows the utter absurdity of Party splits.

Without Fear or Favour

THE WOLF FROM WHITEHALL

Small Holdings Scandal

WHEN the fighting men came back from the War a great deal of fuss was made about getting as many of them as possible settled on the land, and schemes were started for helping them, through County Councils and various agricultural committees.

We have reason to think that the public conscience would get a rude shock if the number of ex-Servicemen who have been ruined as a result of being drawn into these schemes could be made known.

All the time cases are cropping up in the Law Courts of men who have lost hundreds of pounds at this small-holding game, and they invariably tell the same tale of trouble. After being promised security of tenure and help of various kinds they have found themselves held tightly to the strict letter of a long, complicated, legal agreement, the terms of which they never properly understood.

Then when they complain to the County Council authorities they are told that it is the fault of the Ministry of Agriculture, and when they complain to the Ministry of Agriculture they are referred back to the local authority.

The pity of it all is that it is not until the man has sunk all his capital in the holding that he discovers the helplessness and hopelessness of his position. Then it is too late to do anything for him even if (as is often the case) he has kept his temper and paid his rent.

There is little doubt that the much-talked-of schemes for settling ex-Service men on the land have been a big failure; and the reason is to be traced to nothing but officialism—an old complaint in this England of ours.

If he had been warned that the strictest commercialism would have been meted out to him he would at least have had a chance of taking all legal precautions, instead of trusting as he has done to the generosity of irresponsible busy-bodies who cannot now be got at.

Railway Wages

THE railway companies have not made out a very good case for the reduction of railwaymen's wages.

The national minimum wage on British railways is 40s. weekly. The average wage throughout the industry is 59s. This is a good deal less than in some other important industries, and actually less than the scales of poor relief in certain necessitous areas.

Nevertheless the companies insist that without a reduction of wages in all grades they cannot go on discharging their function in the community.

That the men should accept this intimation without protest is not to be expected. The N.U.R. points to the fact that the companies have large accumulated reserves, and that a proper use of their powers under the Railways Act would enable them to cope with the present difficult situation without cutting wages.

These contentions merit closer examination than they have yet received.

Starving the Unemployed

NOT until we realise that this country is a commonwealth, that in riches or poverty we are members one with another, shall we be within sight of a solution of the problem of poverty

NOT content with its spectacular triumph at West Ham, where the local Board of Guardians was fought to a standstill over the question of outdoor relief to the unemployed, the Ministry of Health appear to be looking round for fresh worlds to conquer. Its selection of a second battle-ground has been most unfortunate; unless indeed the aim of the Whitehall officials is to demonstrate beyond question that the present Poor Law system is rotten to the core.

The Rt. Hon. Neville Chamberlain, Minister of Health

The Ministry's latest quarrel is with the Board of Guardians at Bedwellty, one of the poorest districts in the South Wales coalfield, where unemployment is not merely a problem but an all-pervading tragedy.

The villages of Blaina, Nantyglo, Abertillery and Rhymney, comprised within the Bedwellty area, are bearing the full brunt of the depression in the South Wales pits; it is no exaggeration to say that, apart from unemployment benefit and outdoor relief, thousands of men and women must before now have starved to death.

Naturally the Board of Guardians is heavily in debt. As long as the State demands that the poor shall maintain the poor, that the heaviest burden shall be strapped upon the weakest back, there will be financial embarrassments of this kind to vex the purists of Whitehall.

Altogether the Bedwellty Guardians have borrowed £400,000 and are asking for more. The Ministry of Health says "No," and like Mr. Bumble proceeds to flourish the cane.

ONLY on certain fixed conditions, say the Whitehall authorities, shall the Bedwellty Guardians be permitted to raise a further loan. The scale of outdoor relief must come down. For the future a man and his wife living together must receive no more than 20s. weekly, with proportionately reduced allowances for children.

It is as well to get a clear idea of what this ultimatum means. Remember that the cost of living to-day stands 76 per cent. above the figure for 1914, when, cheap as food and other necessaries were, 20s. for rent, food, fuel and clothing for two persons weekly would have been a mere hunger pittance. With commodities at their present price, a pound a week for two people is just lingering starvation.

It means that the Bedwellty Guardians will be no longer able to relieve unemployment but merely to mock its miseries; that hundreds of little homes which against fearful odds have been kept intact will be pitifully broken up, that men, women and children will hunger and sicken and die.

WHAT sort of justice, what kind of humanity, is this?

In the long run this plan of campaign, hatched in the dry-as-dust brains of Whitehall officials, may have good results if it serves to demonstrate the callous stupidity of expecting that the poor can for ever be carried on the backs of the poor, that the slums can ransom the slums, that the breakdown of a great industrial system can be treated as if it were a local affair to be regulated with no more thought than is needed to build a parish pump.

The Ministry of Health may carry its point in South Wales as it did in West Ham, but it will be at the cost of stirring up an agitation which can never rest till the Poor Law area is made large enough to embrace rich and poor in a common bond of mutual aid.

The Tenants' Charter

IT has been persistently rumoured during the last few weeks that the Government intends at no distant date to repeal the Rent Restriction Acts. That Mr. Baldwin can seriously contemplate such a piece of folly is almost unbelievable. But one never knows.

The original purpose of these Acts was to safeguard the homes of men who went to the War, but like several other war-time expedients they have been wisely adapted to post-War needs. Because of the housing shortage it has been absolutely necessary to curb the rights of landlords; otherwise rents would have reached colossal figures, and tenants with no money to meet such excessive demands would have been turned into the streets.

Up till now all political Parties have agreed that the Rent Acts must be kept in force until the house famine is at an end. As far as the wage-earning classes are concerned we are not yet within sight of this desirable event. Among the poor the housing situation is almost, if not quite, as bad as ever.

If anyone doubts this let him pay a visit to the nearest County Court any morning when "possession cases" are being heard. Only in the most exceptional circumstances will the judges consent to evict a tenant, for they know quite well, if the Prime Minister does not, that not for love nor money are vacant rooms to be had.

In these circumstances, to destroy the Tenants' Charter would be an act of cruel injustice. The ultimate responsibility for the housing of the people rests upon the Government; and until they have found a solution for this pressing social problem their plain duty is to ensure that every respectable tenant shall keep a roof over his head.

Sir Donald Relents

WE congratulate Sir Donald MacAlister and his colleagues on the British Medical Council for having proved that they are not above taking good advice. We have tendered ours frequently during the last twelve months on the question of the expulsion from the British Medical Association of Dr. Haydn Brown.

Now comes the announcement that Dr. Brown's name is once more on the Medical Register. As our readers know, his "crime" was that he wrote an article for the columns of JOHN BULL!

The old-fashioned members of his profession were shocked, for he had committed the unpardonable breach of etiquette of having given free to the public certain advice for which he might have charged a substantial fee in his consulting-room.

Had he said the same things on a public platform and had they been reported in a hundred newspapers he would have escaped, for a doctor might speak, but not write!

Now the policy is changed and Dr. Haydn Brown has returned from the wilderness. We offer him our good wishes in the distinguished career which he now resumes within the fold.

M. Doumergue, President of the French Republic

Is it "Hats Off" Now?

by A. G. GARDINER

ALL classes of the British people have shared the burden of war debt. In France, failure to tax the wealthy has left a huge deficit. Unless honest finance is resorted to, the country will crash to bankruptcy

GOVERNMENTS are tumbling in France like Aunt Sally; at a country fair, and as they tumble the franc tumbles, too. It would be more true, perhaps, to say that the tumbling franc is the cause of the tumbling Ministries.

For if the franc is not stabilised no Ministry can be stabilised, and France will go on rocking, rocking, until she collapses into a revolution, out of which some Black Shirt Mussolini or some Red Shirt Lenin will emerge as dictator.

It is a tragic plight for a great country. It is not less tragic because there is no excuse for it. France is not a poor country. She is a rich country. She is certainly the richest among the great countries of the Continent to-day.

No other nation is so self-contained, depends so little upon the outside world for its supplies of food, has such widely distributed personal wealth, or has enjoyed such entire freedom since the war from that blight of unemployment which has fallen upon us.

Why, then, is she plunging so helplessly to Niagara?

The price to be paid

If I were asked to reply in a sentence I should say it is because she has failed to grasp the inexorable truth that public solvency is the only guarantee of private wealth. If the national finances are bankrupt and the national currency is worthless, then my private hoard is worthless, too.

I may grouse about the heavy taxes, but I know that they are the price I have to pay to maintain the national credit, without which the money I have will become valueless. It is better business to pay 10s. in the pound in income-tax and super-tax than it is to keep the 10s. and see the pound go to 4s. in real value.

That is what we have done. We have taxed and are still taxing up to 10s. in the pound. That is why, in spite of all our troubles, we are the most solvent country in Europe, the only great country that has had no financial catastrophe, the only country in Europe that paid its way in the war, and has paid its debts since.

We faced the facts and took our gruel. We refused to budget on the assumption that we were going to get tons of money out of a bankrupt and defeated enemy, or that our allies were going to pay us what we had lent them in the war. We hoped they would, but we assumed they would not, and put our hands in our own pockets when the tax-gatherer came round. This was not superior virtue. It was simply sound business.

Castles in the air

What has France done? She has not paid her way, she has not balanced her budgets, she has not paid her debts. Instead of taxing her rich men on their possessions and their income, she has taxed her poor on their consumption.

Four-fifths of her revenue are derived from indirect taxes, which are often cruel because they tax the hungry stomach, and not the well-filled pocket, and are evil because they are concealed.

Her rich and her well-to-do have refused to pay, and her statesmen have encouraged them not to pay by cultivating the fable, which they knew to be a fable, that untold wealth could be wrung out of Germany. To keep up that fable Poincaré organised the Ruhr invasion amid the imbecile "hip-hip-hurrays" of our Rothermeres, and made the financial situation more calamitous.

What was the result? The budgets would not balance because the rich would not pay taxes. The deficits increased every year, and the interest on debt grew with them.

The more it grew the more the Government had to borrow. It was borrowing to pay interest on its borrowings. It was piling up debts without anything to meet them except the creation of more debts carrying more interest, to be met by more borrowing, and so on until the experiment of living by devouring its own tail was complete.

Criminal insanity

It was the finance, not of a bucket-shop, but of Bedlam, and it was all the more criminal because its authors knew that it was insane and had not the manliness to tell the people that they were on the road to ruin. M. Caillaux was the first statesman who dared to tell France the truth and to point the way out of the bog, and he was dismissed for doing it.

The result is before us. The State is bankrupt and the franc is falling into the abyss where the mark and the crown and the rouble have preceded it.

It is not worth ten pence: it is worth two pence. Next week or next month it may be worth a penny.

Have the people who lent their money out to the State at interest rather than pay taxes made a good bargain for themselves? Of course they have not. They are faced with the ruin that overtook the German bond-holders and Austrian bond-holders. Their bonds are becoming worthless. They have so watered their currency that there will soon be little but water in it.

Their private money is melting away because their foolish parsimony has destroyed the public solvency that gave it value. No doubt many of the rich have insured themselves by turning their francs into sovereigns and dollars, but the millions of small rentiers will find themselves impoverished and will take their revenge.

Can the disaster be averted? Only by the French people facing the ugly facts. The longer they are left the uglier they will get. The longer the surgical operation is delayed the more serious and dangerous it will have to be.

The remedy, immediate, imperious, is to accept the fact that the franc has gone irrecoverably, that it is no longer the equivalent of 10d. but of 2d., and to stabilise it on that basis. It is unpleasant medicine, but it is the only medicine that will cure.

When a company is on the rocks you write down its capital. France is on the rocks, must write down its capital and make a new start. It is hard on the shareholders, but the shareholders must remember that having refused to pay in one way, taxes, they have now to pay in another way, depreciated currency.

Swallowing the dose

If they pay up, learn the lesson that taxes are better business than loans, and that you cannot bankrupt the State without bankrupting yourself, they can soon recover.

They have wonderful resources and are an industrious people.

Have they the wisdom and courage to take their medicine?

If they have, they will be astonished at the speed with which their credit will revive. They will discover that they can even afford to pay their debts. If not——

The opponents of gambling associated with sport must not lose sight of other gambles much more serious

Posers fo

IN religious circles the question of gambling has always been a bone of contention, but the ordinary man in the street has usually been bewildered to know what the exact morals of the question are in view of that fact that churches have been known to organise raffles and whist drives. He has never been content to accept the explanation that such gambles are justified by being in aid of the church funds or for a new organ or to buy a new surplice for the minister.

John Robertson, M.P., W.B.E.

The position has been made as clear as mud by a contribution to the discussion from a very well-known minister in my own district of Hamilton.

The reverend gentleman, whose point of view is typical of the pulpit, dealt with the "evil of gambling" and exhibited a great deal of courage, especially when denouncing the vices of the poorer and less fortunate sections of the community.

In hundreds of the Midland, Northern and Scottish towns the miners and other workers find some kind of relaxation in the excitement of whippet-racing, and with this fact he made great play.

IN condemning the gambler on whippet-racing he was very careful to give a definition of what he meant by gambling. Let me quote his own words:

"Now really what is gambling? Let us clearly, definitely, explicitly define our term. We may best get to the root of an answer by asking another question: What is money?

"Money is simply the token of a certain amount of the service of our fellow-men. If in return for that token of toil we render some useful service, then we legitimately possess that money. *If no useful service is rendered in return, then the money is not ours at all. In fact, it is stolen money.*"

We all deplore drunkenness, but will the revered gentleman say that the rich brewer who invests his money in the manufacture of strong drink is performing a useful service to the community by doing so?

Will he also say that the publican who retails

Murderer's Wonderful Deed

by "A GENTLEMAN WITH A DUSTER"

MURDERERS at times show that they are possessed of the higher virtues. Real remorse for the crime they have committed sometimes brings out unsuspected qualities. The murderer of whom our contributor writes discovered the virtue of truth

Dr. William Temple, Bishop of Manchester

LAST week at the Manchester assizes a man entered the prisoner's dock charged with the crime of murder. He was twenty-nine years of age and married. The girl he had stabbed to death, "apparently through jealousy," was twenty-three. Asked if he was guilty or not guilty, the young man answered, "clearly and decisively," that he was guilty. His Majesty's judge asked him if he had considered the course that he was taking. Steady and unmoved, the young man replied that he had considered it.

The judge said: "You know that by pleading guilty the sentence which the law must pass upon you is in no way affected?" The prisoner answered, "I realise that." Then the judge said, "You have been offered counsel and have refused?" "Yes, I have refused it," answered the prisoner.

The clerk of assize asked the young man if he had anything to say why sentence of death should not be pronounced upon him. The prisoner replied, "Nothing."

Then the judge passed sentence of death, and the guilty murderer, who listened to those dreadful words without a tremor, waved farewell to a friend in court and disappeared from the public view. This drama lasted exactly four minutes.

Juggling with conscience

Was there anything behind it? Why did the prisoner take so unusual a course as pleading guilty? How was it that he did not either protest his innocence, with the righteous indignation of so many other murderers, or argue that the wickedness of his victim had driven him mad?

The answer is given in a footnote to the report of this four minutes' trial: "He was recently confirmed by the Bishop of Manchester in Strangeways Prison."

Here is a matter worth thinking about. A man who has murdered a girl comes under the influence of religion. One effect of that influence is to make it impossible for him to lie. Lawyers might explain to him that a plea of "Not guilty" is not a lie, and that such a plea is necessary to a fair trial.

But the man has ceased to juggle with conscience; he is face to face with a terrific reality; he is going to die; he is going to pass out of the visible world into an invisible world. That passage he will not make with a lie on his lips.

Murderer's awful terror

I know Dr. William Temple, the Bishop of Manchester, and I can imagine the effect he would produce on this young man's mind. He is one of the ablest scholars in the Church, a deep-thinking and a courageous man, animated by the single desire to make religion a reality in the blundering life of an unhappy world.

To him religion is not a form. Nor is it a mere theory. It is the greatest imaginable thing in human existence, because it unites the soul of the creature to its Creator, and gives life a meaning and a consecration. He is trying to make religion a fact in our politics.

Imagine, then, a murderer in communion with such a man as this, a man who is not only a profound thinker, but a loving and compassionate man, inspired by noble and unselfish ideals. How trivial everything would become except the soul and its mystery. How real to him would become that strange self-communing thing within us which we call conscience.

Perhaps, in the loneliness of his cell, he had been haunted by the terror-stricken eyes of his victim as he stabbed her to death, or tortured by the heart-breaking misery he had brought upon his young wife. Awful must it be for any guilty man who stands only a little above brute-level to be alone with his thoughts.

But someone comes to this young murderer in his prison cell, speaks to him of God, and makes eternity real to him; and the haunting goes, a quiet valour takes possession of him, and no longer can he tell a lie.

Let us not look any further into his soul, nor waste words arguing about the forgiveness of terrible sin. Better for us to consider whether the law's time-honoured encouragement to lie is not a bad influence in our life, and a very serious hindrance to true progress.

There is, of course, a justification for encouraging a guilty man to say that he is not guilty. Lawyers can prove to you that it is necessary to the course of justice. It is a thing which has been done and accepted for hundreds of years.

No man is guilty, they say, until the law pronounces him to be guilty. He has the right to say that he is not guilty, even if he has been taken redhanded in his crime. Only by such a plea can he secure a fair trial.

The worm at the core

All this, if you believe in morals, is a quibble, and, if you believe in God, it is something worse. I am convinced for myself that the spirit which tolerates such lying, and justifies it with logic, is a corrupting spirit. As I see the world, the absolute foundation of all morals is truth, and to play fast and loose with this foundational virtue is to rot and shake the entire fabric of social life.

I believe that we are becoming slack in all the virtues just because we minimise the demand which conscience makes of us to speak the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

The spirit of lying creeps into our commercial life, into our political life, into our domestic life, into each man's individual soul. We say one thing and mean another. We begin to think that life is an opportunity, not to help each other, but to trick each other.

He who can outwit a rival, he who can get the better of another, he is the clever fellow, the man with brains, the man who deserves to get on in this jolly old world. What an end to evolution!

The monster Patrick Mahon, standing up in court and lying himself black in the face, is no scandal to us, shocking us to our very souls, but a queer and interesting study in psychology.

Chivalry degraded

The men who swear on oath in the Divorce Court that they have not committed adultery are men of chivalry defending a woman's "honour." To own up, that is absurd. Lie like a trooper, and go on lying till the game is up—that's the way of common-sense. But is it the way of evolution?

The Eternal God is not mocked, neither can human nature flourish on falsity. A lie of any kind in the soul must, obviously, be fatal to goodness, and, therefore, fatal to strength and progress.

Wise shall we be to cultivate in ourselves such a sense of the tremendous reality of God and our own souls that truth shall become the foundation of our entire life, as necessary to our self-respect and to our salvation as it is to the murderer in Manchester humbly and calmly awaiting his execution.

a Parson

By JOHN ROBERTSON, M.P., M.B.E
(Ex-Junior Lord of the Treasury)

to the consumer is performing a useful service to his fellows?

There are other forms of gambling where no useful service is rendered to the community. There is, for instance, the gambling in stocks and shares. Will the reverend gentleman tell his hearers if money made in this way also comes under his definition of stolen money?

Our preacher's church is situated in one of the largest colliery districts in Scotland. The bad housing conditions of the mining community are notorious, as he must know at first hand.

One-apartment houses by the hundred where, within the walls of a badly constructed insanitary dwelling of one room, sleeping, washing, lying-in, sickness and death all take place.

DURING the last fifty years fortunes have been made by the owners of the coal mines in this district. Will the reverend gentleman say what useful services have been rendered to the community in return for the wealth earned by those who are compelled to live in the wretched hovels owned by our coal magnates?

To steal money is bad enough, but surely it is worse to steal the health, destroy the body and kill the joys of the miner and his dependents who have laboured to earn the coalowners' dividends.

In view of the beginning of that most beautiful prayer: "Our Father, Which art in Heaven," the reverend gentleman might explain to the children of a common Father what right the landlord has to impose a tax on every ton of coal taken by the miners out of the bowels of the earth.

Has the royalty-owner, who only allows coal to be brought to the surface if he is paid a royalty of 6d. per ton, performed a useful service in return? If not, is the money stolen?

MILLIONS of pounds have been paid in this way during the past few years. Will the reverend gentleman tell us what services the landlords in the Hamilton district alone have given for these millions?

If money is taken from the community without useful service being given in return, the rank of the person who takes it does not alter the morality of the action. If it is wrong in the case of a miner gambling on a whippet race, it is equally wrong in a gambler on the Stock Exchange.

If the miner in Burnbank puts a shilling on his favourite whippet and thereby gains five, the balance, according to our preacher, is stolen money. If a landlord demands 6d. per ton of royalty rents and gives no useful service to his fellows, then the money obtained thereby is stolen.

Just think how he'd enjoy the
MILD HAVANA
FLAVOUR OF
MANIKIN
CIGARS
at
XMAS
Nothing captures a man's imagination like a BOX OF CIGARS, so give him Manikins. They are more acceptable than a smaller number of bigger cigars. For, while being choice enough to rank as a "leisure hour" smoke, they are small enough for shorter intervals.
So get him Manikins—you will enjoy their enchanting aroma as much as he will appreciate their Mild Havana Flavour.
In Cartons,
5 for
10d.
10 for
1/8
50 for 8/3
In Attractive Cedarwood Box.

THE KEY WITHOUT A DOOR

by Dr. M. KOPPIUS (*The Famous Dutch Internationalist*)

THE League of Nations has accomplished but a fraction of what was hoped of it. To be the success that is necessary to secure world peace the hearts and minds of the people must be enlisted

As long as the history of mankind has been recorded, so long the nations have been at war. To abolish war, to bring world peace here on earth, is a task almost superhuman. If we wish to achieve this task, then means a good deal more powerful must be used than are used at present.

After the world-War, when a large part of humanity was indeed weary of the war, when more strongly than at present there sounded voices crying for disarmament and world peace, the League of Nations was founded.

How many who hailed its foundation with cheers, because they believed the world peace to be near, have turned away from it in disbelief and distrust, because it did not give what the credulous thought it would bring within a few years!

How many have looked upon that League of Nations with scorn, because it proved to be unable to solve extremely difficult problems quite according to the law! How many people in Germany consider the League of Nations only as a powerful instrument of the former allied nations!

Why the League has failed

Humanity puts no trust in the League of Nations. One need certainly not be surprised at this. This league was not founded by the powerful will of humanity itself. It is an institution founded by only a few statesmen.

If it were different, its existence would be more certain, its influence and power much greater. But at present it leads a precarious existence.

Its influence, its power, nay its very life, depends on the statesmen of the different nations. In proportion as these statesmen sympathise more or less with the League of Nations the power of the League will be greater or smaller too. As long as the common people do not claim a strong League of States, so long will that League be weak.

Only when the common people are convinced that international law stands by the side of, nay above, national law, only when the value of this internationalism is recognised by humanity, will there be any chance of a strong League of Nations.

International co-operation

It must be drummed into humanity that this problem should be looked at objectively and not too much from a national standpoint, and that, if one wishes indeed to arrive at disarmament and world peace here on earth, there must be a just League of States above the individual States.

Now it is my idea that by the side of the League of Nations a great institute shall be founded at Geneva from whence humanity must be influenced. That institute will have to further internationalism in all possible ways.

International congresses, the facilitating of travelling to and the visiting of foreign countries, the learning of foreign languages, the showing of lantern-slides relative to the peculiarities of every country, the international practice of sport, are so many small means that contribute to a general sense of "belonging together" of the whole of mankind.

The exchange of scholars and artists between the various countries should be strongly promoted.

As few impediments as possible should be thrown in the travellers' way. Chambers of commerce or other institutions of commerce and industry in the different countries should seek to come in touch with one another. Agriculturists, too, can greatly further internationalism.

A desirable asset

Frequently in after-war times children from Germany, Austria and Hungary have temporarily been taken in by families that were neutral at first. This happened to prevent those children from becoming underfed.

How desirable it would be to have these children also now taken in temporarily by families of other countries, that early in life already they should see something beyond their own surroundings and receive a broader education.

The institute I am thinking of will have to negotiate with the different Governments, perhaps through the League of Nations, perhaps independently, to facilitate a stay abroad.

Students should be encouraged as much as possible to visit foreign universities. The same holds good for agriculturists. The Governments will have to co-operate by promoting the cheap housing of students, agriculturists, etc., from abroad.

The Press bureau

In the above-mentioned examples for the furthering of an entire "belonging together" of humanity, the institute will mostly act as a guide and sign-post, whereas the Governments, commissions, universities, associations of merchants, industrialists and others will have to perform the real work.

This is, of course, extremely useful, because the greater the number of people that works to attain this lofty purpose, the more chance there is that the idea will be realised.

Side by side with this, however, the institute will have to do independent work. It will have to edit periodicals, books, pamphlets, in all languages setting forth clearly the aim of the institute.

It will have to give complete information to the world about the aim and endeavours of the League of Nations. Libraries will have to arise everywhere; the best men and women will have to devote their strength to the institute.

Courses should be held to beat into people's brains ideas of world peace. And as well as using the usual periodicals, pamphlets and books, a world-Press should be set up.

The present writer, who, in the beginning of the Ruhr occupations lived for some time in South Germany and read almost exclusively German papers there, often felt how difficult it is, even for a neutral foreigner, to consider a question as that of the Ruhr occupation objectively.

It has often cost me an effort to remember that what I read was written by a partial hand. Was not the influence immense which the *Telegraaf*, a daily friendly disposed towards the Allies, exercised in Holland during the world-war? What a marvellous effect a Press could have if it were edited by the institute itself!

Dr. M. Koppius

This world propaganda should be sent out from one centre, and it seems to me that Geneva must be the assigned seat of this institute.

It is absolutely necessary—it cannot be repeated too often—that all countries should give their greatest men and women to the institute.

For each and all in their own way will have to hammer into humanity that the three absolute requisites for world peace are: A strong sense in humanity of "belonging together"; an objective way of thinking; confidence in the League of Nations and the strengthening of that League.

The institute will have to make an extraordinary appeal for the League of Nations. At present the League exists, but does not live. It will never live until the idea of it is so common that nobody can think of this world without thinking of the League of Nations.

A wonderful return

How exactly it will develop it is difficult to say. When, however, mankind has understood the two requisites mentioned above, then all the nations will gain, because the League will grow into a reality as a matter of course.

Let us joyfully take upon ourselves the task of trying to bring the world peace nearer. It will then, perhaps, be granted to later generations to complete the work.

If the institute works strenuously there will be, at no distant date, few Governments that will not in all honesty support the League of Nations in its aiming at disarmament. For the nations will no longer choose rulers that will not fully contribute to the League.

The first difficulty consists in the foundation of the institute. It must not be founded by Governments, but by the people. Money, very much money, is wanted. Indeed, if all the States were willing to cede only 5 per cent. of their present army and navy expenditure, the institute could already dispose of a tremendous income.

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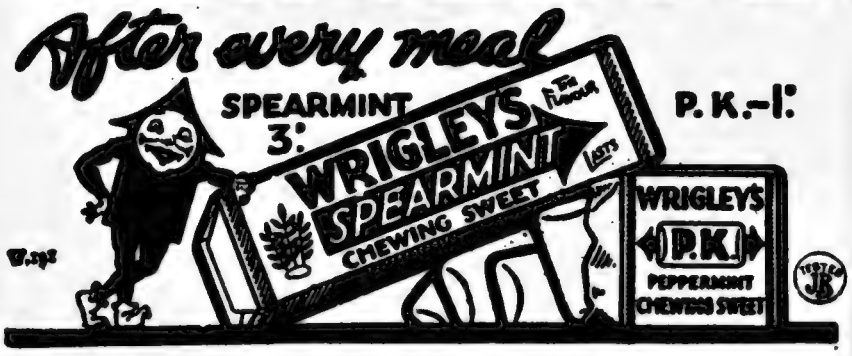

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ESTELLE HOLDS MY HAND

by SYDNEY A. MOSELEY

OUR contributor in this article, the first of a series, describes his interview with a well-known Society fortune-teller. Paving his visits with a mind free from prejudice, he will narrate further experiences. These articles will be of absorbing interest

IT is an extraordinary fact that hundreds of thousands of women—and men, too—are under the spell of professional fortune-tellers from whom they seriously seek advice on most intimate matters affecting their lives.

Now this business of fortune-telling is either a gigantic humbugging swindle and ought to be suppressed as a grave danger, or else it is a great revelation and ought to be strictly regularised.

It may be considered amusing to those who are able to place a correct value on what these "mystics" say, but nine women out of ten accept the warning of a woman rival for the affection of her husband. Says the seer: "Beware of a dark woman—," and a sister or innocent friend is suspect for the first time.

A death of "a close relation" (a common forecast) anticipates grief. Even intelligent people are impressed by the vaguest possible description of "an enemy" or somebody "with whom you should have no business dealings."

* * *

WHAT is the real truth about fortune-tellers? Are they at all genuine or are they merely humbugs battening on the credulity of men and women in search of sympathy and help?

For the purpose of probing the matter once and for all, I have been visiting a number of palmists, card-readers, crystal-gazers, psychometrists, phrenologists—in short, the whole round of "rogues and vagabonds" (as the law terms them) who affect not only to tell your character, your past and your future, but to advise you on the sort of woman you should marry (or the sort of wife you should leave) and the kind of career to embark upon—even if you are already established in one.

Reality and agr ement

This, as a test, is of first importance. For it is quite clear that if there is any reality in the claims of fortune-tellers, then all these people should tell me the same thing—if not exactly, then at any rate approximately.

On the other hand, if they all differ it will prove conclusively one of two things, fraud or inefficiency, in which case we should call for the suppression or strict control by the police.

First of all, I paid a visit to "Estelle," a Society palmist, who has become notorious through a recent police prosecution. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle is so incensed at the prosecution of this lady that he and others of his powerful friends arranged a protest meeting in London.

Estelle received me in her little flat in Orchard Street. There was nothing to indicate on the street door that Madame lives on the top floor. Instead, there is a card of Madame Kate Opperman, a well-known South African contralto. It was she who opened the door gingerly and scrutinised me.

Preliminary pr ceedings

Before obtaining a sitting with Estelle, Madame Opperman, as she warned me, "put me through my catechism"! Afterwards, she told me that this was due to her ability to read clients' faces, whereas Estelle can only read the palms.

Apparently I passed muster, for after waiting for half an hour or more I was admitted to the great presence.

Estelle is an intelligent little woman and, let it be understood, she is first and foremost a palmist. She does read the crystal, but "not professionally," she told me. Therefore, my lengthy séance was confined to a reading of my right palm. Here is how the séance opened:

Estelle, her hands encased in white linen gloves takes a quick scrutiny of both my palms and concentrates on the right hand. Then: "A remarkable head you have—a wonderful brain! Did you ever take up law?"

Questions and guesses

That is obviously a guess. I modestly suggest to her that one could tell from my broad forehead and receding hair that my brains are developed! I ask her point blank if she is able to tell me what my profession is, but her guesses are all wide of the mark.

Estelle goes on hinting—throwing out suggestions and questions, which unless one adopts an antagonistic attitude, draws a reply or a look that gives the fortune-

"Estelle"

teller a definite clue. That is where a shrewd palmist always scores.

Estelle: "Well, at any rate, you would have made a first-class barrister. You have a grip of things. You know what I mean. You could handle a case successfully. You have magnetism. You are fond of music. Do you sing?" she says, sharply turning away at a tangent.

This puzzled me, but only momentarily, for I remembered that her colleague in the next room was a teacher of singing. She, strangely enough, said to me later when I declared that I had no singing voice out of the ordinary: "But if you have a good *speaking* voice it is obvious that you must have a good singing voice."

Ah! that is it. It is my speaking voice which may, perhaps, have given the clue to Estelle's remarkable discovery. She insists, however, as the séance proceeds, that this voice of mine is "a wonderful thing."

"If it were not for the fact," she says more boldly, "that I see great success in business, I would go so far as to advise you to throw up everything and concentrate on training your voice."

A trump card

It was ungrateful of me, perhaps, but I murmured *sotto voce*, "Wouldn't Madame Opperman be pleased?" And madame, indeed, seriously suggested that I should take lessons with her!

"You are married?" says Estelle, half in challenge, half in question. I would prefer her to say definitely, "You are married," or "You are not." . . *Well, I am not!*

In fact, she hints at my having been married at an early age, and she is quick as lightning to develop a theme of another marriage when I mention a lady friend who wishes to consult her.

Sydney A. Moseley

She plays this card to the full, pointing out how very happy I would be and how happy she would be, and how fond she is of me. In fact, Estelle's bouquets would fill a florist's. The future becomes roscate. Not only "she" but other "shes" are fond of me, for remember I have a magnetic personality and that—

"By the way," asks Estelle, "do you ride or play golf?"

I murmur something about having played golf and she replies: "Well, you must be very popular at your golf club."

I could not very well tell her that I was long ago bunkered, that my irons are all rusty and that I prefer tea on the terrace to tee on the green. Apparently, she can see nothing in my lines about my genuine love for the sea in this careful delineation of my life and aspirations.

Neither does she accept my challenge of telling me what is my profession. Instead she says I can paint and that I have "an eye for colour." The fact is, I cannot paint and I have the "average" eye for colour. But there is one thing which she insists upon, that I was going to be immensely rich!

The hindering digit

Estelle went back to the singing question. "Do you know you could become one of the greatest singers in the country?" she declared. I replied that nothing would induce me to sing in public, whereupon a moment later she was telling me, "You run away from publicity!"

Estelle, passing on to my thumb: "Do you see that thumb? That is what we palmists call a weak thumb, but actually it is a fine attribute. If it were not for that thumb," the seer went on impressively, "you would become a Napoleon."

"Your brain line—here it is," she said, pointing to the lone line in the middle of my thumb, "bigger and more powerful than the majority of the great men and women who come to see me."

Both Estelle and her colleague were rather discouraged when I uttered no ejaculations of "Marvellous!" "Wonderful!" as so many clients had (so they told me).

"That is because I am sceptical and do not really believe that you are able to tell the future in this way," I said frankly.

"My fee is one guinea," said Estelle sweetly.

* * *

Now I have given the account of my sitting with Estelle fairly, and without embroidery. Analysed, there is, of course, nothing in it. There was little in her delineation which any ordinary intelligent person could fail to observe.

The charge of a guinea may suit her Society *clientele*, but any reader with a guinea to burn may care to buy a gold brick with it. It comes to the same thing.

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J.B.

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HAVE you ever tried counting the stars? You say: "Absurd, impossible."

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OPTIMUS PIPES

TIPS TO TRIP SHYLOCK

BREAKING THROUGH THE NET

by **The Rev. HERBERT WILLIAMS** *(an Authority on the Moneylending Evil)*

THE Shylocks are very busy just now. The new Bill which comes before Parliament shortly threatens to trim their talons and end the golden age of usury.

So the Shylocks are making hay while the sun shines, and the country is being flooded with their lying circulars.

With a total of about thirty thousand moneylenders in this country, many with more than four hundred clients, it can be assumed that something like three million people are victims.

Moneylenders are as cowardly as they are rapacious, a fact twenty years' experience in fighting them on behalf of brother clergymen and countless parishioners has taught me. Shrink before the menaces and blackmailing threats of the Shylock, and he redoubles them. But stand up to him and he climbs down and shows the characteristic pusillanimity of the craven.

The moneylender is always very free with his threats of legal proceedings. *But there are few things he hates more.*

Is it possible to save a proportion of those three million victims from the clutches of their grasping and rapacious masters? I believe so.

Advice to victims

Here is my advice to the man or woman who is becoming distracted through the threats and bullying of moneylenders. Make a clean breast of the whole business.

Go to friends and borrow enough money to pay off the exact amounts received from the moneylenders, if these sums, as is probably the case, have not already been paid off long since. Thereafter let the borrower bluntly refuse to pay another penny.

Here I should explain that in the eyes of the law the original loan is the sum first borrowed. It may be that there have been numerous renewals; but the sum first advanced to the borrower is the original loan.

It is just possible that Shylock will issue a writ. Pay into court a reasonable percentage in interest and leave the matter to the judge.

In one case the moneylender did issue a writ. I instructed a lawyer to defend on behalf of my poor friend. We put in an affidavit claiming relief from a loan which was harsh and unconscionable.

The judge allowed Shylock 60 per cent. interest. But the borrower had actually paid around 150 per cent., so that he came out with flying colours and, what was better still, some of his own money back.

The moneylender dislikes nothing so much as a promptly repaid loan. He waxes rich on the renewals of small loans, getting his talons deeper and deeper into his victim.

Benevolence at a price

Take a typical case. A borrower is advanced £10 on his promissory note to repay £15. When his note matures he can find only £6. Shylock has been hoping for this. He says: "Don't worry, I won't be hard on you. Sign this (a promissory note for £15) and here is £2 to go on with."

A series of such "benevolent" transactions often net the usurer 1,000 per cent.

Many moneylenders openly defy the law by failing to register. Needless to say these rogues cannot sue. On the contrary, they are liable to severe penalties.

More than once I have had the pleasure of handing on to the Public Prosecutor facts upon which he was able to proceed against one of these rascals.

Many registered moneylenders habitually defy the law by carrying out their transactions wherever they happen to be. Yet only those transactions completed on their registered premises are recognised as legal.

The Rev. Herbert Williams

In this respect the Shylocks in petticoats, who batten on their poor sisters in the poor districts of our big cities, are the worst offenders.

There is only one policy open to the man or woman who has been so foolish as to play into the hands of the usurers—that is, to reveal all the circumstances of the transaction to friends, to face the music and go for the usurer hammer and tongs.

The only safe method

The new Bill, when it becomes law, may curb these rapacious rogues: but it will scarcely end their activities altogether. From what I know of moneylenders they will find a way through the legal net. Therefore, the only sane thing to do is to give them a wide berth every time and all the time.

The Worst Crime of All

by **CHARLES PILLEY**

PARENTS and others responsible for the safety and welfare of children are under a debt of gratitude to JOHN BULL for its fearless exposure of the law's shortcomings in relation to the vilest of all criminal offences.

In previous articles stress has very properly been laid upon the gross inadequacy of the penalties too often imposed in cases of child assault.

By pleading "Guilty" before a magistrate and electing to be dealt with summarily, a man charged with a crime of this character may make certain of getting off with not more than six months' imprisonment! Such a state of affairs is a disgrace to a civilised land.

THE righteous anger which at each fresh repetition of this crime cries out, "Flog the brute!" is not a feeling of which any man need be ashamed. But as soon as calm reflection succeeds moral indignation the question is seen to be hedged around with difficulties.

There is one principle, however, which must be kept steadily in view. Every child born into a civilised community has a right to the fullest protection the law can afford; its moral and physical wellbeing is a sacred public trust.

In the vast majority of cases sexual offences against children are perpetrated by abnormal persons upon whom ordinary legal punishments have little or no deterrent effect.

It is an alarming fact that there are a great many persons at large who, while perhaps evincing no other symptoms of insanity, are upon this vital question of sex completely mad and uncontrollable.

IT is repugnant to the sense of justice to award heavy penalties where the offender is not completely responsible for his actions; while at the same time it is useless to award light penalties which are ineffective to curb a maniacal impulse.

In the small minority of cases in which sane men have yielded to an impulse which with a stronger effort they might have controlled, it may be sufficient to strengthen the present law by compelling magistrates to send every serious charge of this nature for trial by judge and jury; but where the offence is due to sexual perversion an entirely different kind of remedy must be found.

The light sentences too often imposed by magistrates in these cases are a positive incitement to bestiality. At the Lambeth Police Court a few weeks ago an elderly man named Alfred Matthews, convicted on the clearest evidence of improper behaviour towards a seven-year-old girl, escaped with two months' imprisonment.

A man named Mattin, who for thirteen years had acted as verger at St. John's Church, Tottenham, was found guilty of similar offences against a number of children attending the Church and Sunday-school. The penalty for this blasphemous outrage was nine months in jail.

There are hundreds of miscreants at large to-day who have committed more or less serious offences of this character, not once nor twice, but many times. Weak in intellect and sexually irresponsible, they are nevertheless not certifiable lunatics.

Here is room for a new social experiment. Judges should be empowered to sentence a sexual offender to a long term of preventive detention, during which he would receive medical treatment, and what is most important be entirely removed from temptation.

UPON conviction of an offence of this nature the judge should be empowered to decide whether the accused is a responsible being deserving stern punishment, or an abnormal mental degenerate who ought to be detained under medical observation and treatment for a term of years.

On a second or third conviction for the same class of crime the presumption of sexual insanity would be so strong as to leave no doubt of the necessity for preventive detention.

Better a lethal chamber for the child-polluting monster than the present haphazard doling out of ineffective punishments.

Benson's "Wembley" Watch
Solid Gold Lever £7 10 0

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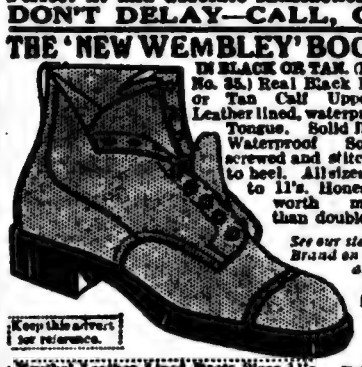
DON'T DELAY—CALL, OR POST YOUR ORDERS NOW.

THE 'NEW WEMBLEY' BOOT
IN BLACK OR TAN. (B.B. No. 35.) Real Black Box or Tan Calf Uppers. Leather lined, waterproof Tongue. Solid Butt Waterproof Soles, screwed and stitched to heel. All sizes 5's to 11's. Honestly worth more than double.



See our stamps and "B.B." Brand on soles. No others are genuine.

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12/6

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IN BLACK OR TAN.
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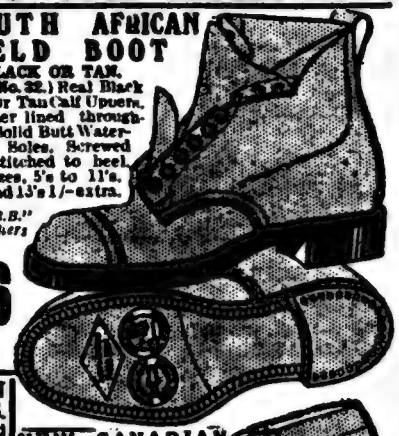

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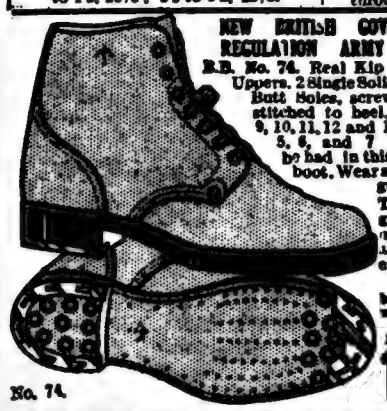

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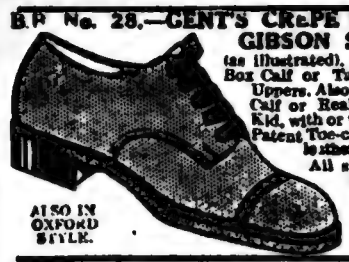

ALSO IN OXFORD STYLE.

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Open daily 9 till 8 p.m. Sats. till 9 p.m.

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POST YOUR ORDERS NOW, enclosing remittance and 1/- extra for post for each pair of footwear, stating number and size. For clothing add postage as mentioned, stating size. Register Treasury Notes and make P.O.'s payable to Bolsom Bros., Ltd.

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MARVELLOUS FOR COUGHS, COLDS AND ALL CHEST AND LUNG COMPLAINTS.

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A Postcard brings 64-Page Medical Guide FREE from Dept. J.B., STIRCHLEY LABS., BIRMINGHAM.

In Sunshine Ward

THE QUEEN of BETHNAL GREEN

A Tribute to Royalty

by PHILIP INMAN

WHO would expect to find a palace in the slum areas of Bethnal Green? Yet there is one and in it lives a queen. She is not recognised as a royal personage and she makes no pretence to high rank.

Her kingdom is not made up of lands and possessions, but she reigns over the hearts of those who know her. Gladly do I count myself one of her subjects.

It is twelve months since I first met her and it was under strange circumstances. The hospital of which I am superintendent was in the throes of one of those accident cases which are so common to it.

An old costermonger had been knocked down by a boy who was riding a box-tricycle. Both were hurt, the man seriously, the lad slightly, and they were placed in adjoining beds in the wards. They had just been made comfortable when the elder man's wife arrived—she was the "Queen of Bethnal Green."

WHAT a strange paradox she seemed; a mixture of illiteracy and refinement. If I may coin the phrase, she was an aristocratic plebeian. It was her wonderful personality which stamped her in a class all by herself.

From the first moment she captured the allegiance of the Sister and the nurses, and she has retained it ever since. "My old Dutch," whispered her husband when he saw her. It was easy to understand what those two meant to each other.

After a tender greeting she went to the next bed where the boy was in a state of mental agitation. "It was my fault," he muttered, "but I never meant to do it."

Then royalty revealed itself. "Don't take on so," pleaded the "Queen," "accidents will 'appen and yer mustn't worry or you'll never get well."

THREE days later the old costermonger took a turn for the better and the doctors said that in a week or two he would be quite himself again. That day the boy was being discharged as cured.

He and the "Queen" had become "real pals" and he was lingering behind to speak to her. "I shall never knock anybody else down," he said mournfully, "I've got the sack."

Then he added, by way of parenthesis, "I don't mind for meself, but I'm thinking of me mother." "And where does yer mother live?" queried the "Queen." "I'd like ter go and see 'er." Half an hour later she went with the lad "to make things right for him at home."

Early the next day she came into my room to ask for advice. She had written a letter to the boy's employer which she wanted me to censor.

"I beg your pardon for troubling you," it read, "but my name is Elizabeth Biggs and I'm the wife of Harry Biggs who was in the accident with your bicycle last Tuesday.

"For his sake and for mine I want you to take that young man back again because he never ment to do no harm and he as a mother wot needs all his help. Kindly let it pass this time and don't make him leve. With the greatest respeck.—Your truly,

"ELIZABETH BIGGS."

• • •

YESTERDAY this costermonger and his "Queen" came to the hospital together, after visiting the ward where he was a patient; they were returning to their Little Palace-Beautiful.

At the windows and on the balcony were faces watching them as they went. You always see that when Royalty leaves the building.

The entrance of the Court

Highways Robbery

Winstunt's New Wangle

DOFFING the latest thing in "gent.'s headwear," Winstunt Churchill entered the dock with the jaunty air of an old offender and pleaded "Not guilty" to a charge of fraudulent conspiracy.

"The accused," said Mr. Watchdog, K.C., "is for the time being Chancellor of the Exchequer, but he has followed many other callings under a variety of political aliases. He has changed his opinions almost as frequently as he has changed his hats, and many of the former have been no less weird and wonderful than the latter. From a politician with his record one does not look for consistency, but the electors are at least entitled to demand of him common honesty.

• • •

"Whether the accused is justified in claiming that he possesses this virtue it is for the jury to say; but those who have listened to his recent hints of a raid on the Road Fund are unable to discern wherein such a proceeding would differ from that of a goose club treasurer who applies to other purposes money subscribed for the purchase of Christmas poultry.

"The Road Fund was collected from motorists on the distinct understanding that it would be used solely for the maintenance of existing roads and the construction of new ones, and an untidy Chancellor in financial difficulties has no more right to help himself to it than he would have to pawn the Crown jewels.

"Any attempt to divert this money from its legitimate purpose would be particularly disastrous at the present time, for the Government's pitiful failure to produce a remedy for unemployment has rendered developmental work more than ever necessary."

• • •

Mr. Strawsplitter said that his client's first concern was to make both ends meet and in doing this it might be necessary to stretch a point. Ordinarily, honesty was the best policy, but in politics expediency had sometimes to be given premier place. In any case, no definite announcement had been made regarding the Road Fund and it was absurd to charge Mr. Churchill before he had committed any offence.

• • •

"If I discover a masked gentleman, armed with a jemmy and a dark lantern, upon my premises," said Mr. Justice Bull, "I do not wait until he actually lays hands upon my silver toast-rack before communicating with the police. The prisoner's past performances—notably his shameless misappropriation of reparation money from Germany which should have gone as compensation to civilian war victims—justifies suspicions regarding his future conduct.

"The prisoner resembles a drunkard who, having acquired the habit of quaffing stolen liquor, tells himself breezily: 'Anuzzer lil drink won't—hic—do ush any harm'; so he marks down motorists as objects of a policy of victimisation such as was applied to air raid sufferers.

"This sort of shady financial juggling simply will not do. Any Chancellor could 'balance' his Budget if he were sufficiently unscrupulous, but the honourable method of achieving this end is by the use of the economist's axe rather than the skeleton keys of the housebreaker. In view of the prisoner's many previous 'convictions' (to none of which has he clung for long) I cannot do less than sentence him to twelve months' hard labour with a road-repairing gang."

Cartoonettes and Topical Jingles

by FRANK HOLLAND

"Oi thought that brick would do the trick,
But, shure, 'twas all in vain!
The baste swum round but nivver drowned
An' now 'tis back again!"

He's got his eye upon that pie
And had when it was cooking;
He'd waif the lot, too, on the spot
If there was no one looking.

It's clear that France finds her finance
A thorny thing to settle.
It could be done by either one
But they won't grasp the nettle.

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The work is lavishly illustrated with Sectional Models in colour, Full-page Plates in half-tone, and hundreds of line illustrations in the text.

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The field of engineering widens from year to year—and the engineer cannot hope to keep up-to-date unless he travels beyond the narrow boundaries of his own experience and informs himself what is going forward in the Science of Engineering. It is for this reason that the publication of "Modern Power Engineering" is so important to every engineer, no matter what his standing.

The author, A. Regnauld, B.Sc., Lon., A.R.C.Sc., M.I.E.E., Senior Lecturer and Superintendent of Workshops, Faraday House Engineering College, is an engineer of long and excellent experience, whose duties at Faraday House have given him the opportunity of seeing and studying all the latest practice in the engineering world. This is a guarantee that the book is not only the most up-to-date, but also the most comprehensive book on Prime Movers and Power Generators ever published.

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Mr. G. BAKEWELL, Engineer, Forster Street, Nottingham, writes:—

"I am very pleased with 'Modern Power Engineering.' No one in the engineering trade should be without it. The plates are very clear and instructive."

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The whole process of Building is fully demonstrated, each phase carefully and simply explained, supported by data, often packed in the form of tables for easy reference.

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Every phase of Construction is dealt with: Masonry, Brickwork, Concrete, Half-Timber Work, Painting, Joinery, Plumbing, Plastering, Carpentry, The Steel Square and How to Use It, Sanitation, Roofing, Thatching.

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Mr. W. EDWARDS, of Evans & Edwards, Builders, Selby Street, Anfield, Liverpool, writes:—

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We are at the opening of an era of building, reconstruction, and renovation. So much has been left undone, so much has to be made good, that every branch of the building trade, including painting and decorating, must now be carried on in the light of exact knowledge and be organised on scientific lines.

"The Modern Painter and Decorator" has been planned to meet the requirements of the times, to provide a comprehensive storehouse of information.

It has been written by experts. It covers every aspect of the trade. It solves many perplexing questions. It shows how to overcome difficulties. It shows how to remedy defects. It is full of the most valuable hints.

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The Workshop, Brushes, Materials, General House Painting, Distempering, Paint and Colour Mixing Gilding, Lettering, Sign-writing, Wallpapers, Staining, Enamelling, Wood-finishing, Graining, Marbling, and Stencilling, Shop Window Decoration, Car, Carriage and Wagon Painting, &c., &c.

The work also deals thoroughly with equipment and organisation and is a reliable and indispensable guide to the management of a business.

Office Routine Equipment, Advertising, Bookkeeping, Law and Insurance, Measuring and Estimating, Prices for Painters' Work, Recipes, Notes on Writing Specifications, Hints to Painters, &c., &c.

Sections are devoted to the art side of decoration, such as designs, colour values, lighting, period styles.

Messrs. SHOPLAND & ORAM, Winscombe, Somerset, write:—

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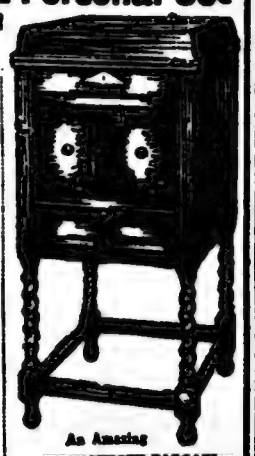

As Amazing

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and 18 19 20 21 & 22 THE GROVE adjoining

Xmas
Pudding Week
NOW is the time to make Christmas Puddings. They will be all the better for keeping if you use this recipe. (Sufficient for 2 or 3 Puddings.)
½ lb. Shredded Atora. 1 lb. Raisins. 1 lb. Currants.
½ lb. Sultanas. ½ lb Candied Peel. ½ lb. Sugar.
½ lb. Flour. 1 teaspoonful Baking Powder. ½ lb. Breadcrumbs.
2 oz. Sweet Almonds. A little Nutmeg.
Rind and juice of 1 Lemon. Pinch of Salt. 4 Eggs.
Enough Milk to make it right consistency.
Clean currants, stone raisins, put all the dry ingredients into a basin, blanch and chop almonds, add eggs, well-beaten, grated rind of lemon, and the juice strained. Mix all thoroughly, put into greased pudding basin, cover with greased paper and steam for 6 hours.
Hugon's
'ATORA'
The Good BEEF SUET
All the work of chopping unprepared suet is saved, and the pudding will be lighter and richer, thanks to 'Atora'.
Write for our booklet of nearly 100 tested recipes. They are good ones.
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The originators of Refined Beef Suet.
'Atora' contains no preservatives.
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SHREDDED BEEF SUET

A GREAT BRITISH INVENTION.

It will be of interest to readers of this Journal to hear that the inventor of the Everpointed Pencil was an Englishman—Sampson Mordan, who was the founder of the well known Firm of Pencil Case Makers, Messrs. S. Mordan & Co., Ltd., 41, City Road, London, E.C. Mr. Sampson Mordan invented the first Everpointed Pencil just a little over a century ago, and the Firm which he founded has since then been developing and adding to its mechanical features, until to-day their famous "Centennial" Everpointed Pencil is as near perfect as human ingenuity can devise. The "Centennial" is so ingeniously arranged internally, that it maintains a sharp writing and a rigid point down to the last shred of lead. Busy writers will appreciate this advantage. The mechanical parts of the "Centennial" are so arranged as to avoid complications—the "Centennial" is always ever-ready and ever-pointed, and can be purchased in many styles—Gold, Silver, Ivory, Ivory and Gold, and Vulcanite—and like most of the Mordan pencils, is sold by Stationers and Jewellers everywhere at prices to suit all.

Always Seasonable.

A gift box of Player's "No. 3" Virginia Cigarettes makes a very acceptable present. The cigarettes are made from the choicest Virginia tobacco and are put up in 50's for 3 3; 100's for 6 6. Player's have been making cigarettes for over forty years and "No. 3" still further establishes their reputation for quality and perfection of manufacture.

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Formed Itchy Eruptions. Healed by Cuticura.

"My trouble first began with dry eczema which broke out on my feet in little pimples and after a time formed sore eruptions. The eruptions began to itch and burn and I had to wear old slippers. The trouble lasted about five weeks.

"I sent for a free sample of Cuticura Soap and Ointment and after using it I got relief. I purchased more, and after using four tins of Cuticura Ointment and three cakes of Cuticura Soap I was completely healed." (Signed) John Tickle, 86, Standish Lower Ground, Nr. Wigan, Lancs., Eng.

Give Cuticura Soap, Ointment and Talcum the care of your skin.

Soap 1s, Ointment 1s 3d and 2s 6d. Talcum 1s 3d. For sample each address: F. Newbery & Sons, Ltd., 27, Charter Ho., London, E.C.1.
Cuticura Shaving Stick 1s. 3d.

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IT'LL WORK BEHIND YOUR BACK

2/- & 4/- of all CHEMISTS & STORES

Words Winged to Women

THE MESSAGE OF A LIFE

Words the Women of Europe Forget

by **MABEL HORNER**

QUEEN ALEXANDRA has passed. When she came to these shores in March, 1863, this Danish princess achieved an instant triumph. Her beauty caught men's hearts. Queen Alexandra was admired.

Later those same hearts were held by womanly grace and goodness, born not of blue blood, nor wealth, nor an elevated station, but of simple, natural kindliness, and Queen Alexandra was loved.

It was her second triumph that in all the long years of the sixty-five she lived among this people that love has never faltered. And now, in her death, she gains her third and final triumph. Around her own house it is the poor who weep.

Always eulogy follows the ending of a royal life. But Alexandra wins her choicest tributes, not from the high and mighty, but from the humblest of the folks for whom, in so large a measure, she lived and worked.

It would be easy to say that one so surrounded by everything that wealth can procure must find it easy to be good. Only ignorance would speak so. It is harder far to be simple in such a case and to keep before one's mind the ever-pressing needs of the poor.

This the late Queen did. She was eminently practical in sympathy.

Following a royal lead

Through her the whole institution of country and district nursing has been put on a more efficient and remunerative basis. Through her the Finsen lamp curative system was introduced in this country.

To her little sick children dare to write, and she, responding, with her own hands packed with flowers the little gilt baskets sent to cheer their long hospital hours.

But greater even than these—rare wisdom in a queen—was her real understanding of the desperate misery of prolonged unemployment. In 1905 she took upon herself to issue an appeal to the British Empire to assist her "in alleviating the sufferings of the starving unemployed," and from her own personal purse started the relief funds with £2,000.

Twenty years have passed and again unemployment ravages the land. Before it we see the whole nation steadily on the downgrade. The days for attacking the problem with charity are passed. The "dole" is showing us its worse phases, but the people cannot be left to starve.

What might not be accomplished, if following this royal lead of understanding sympathy, the women of the country, never resting day nor night, compelled statesmen to do their duty and end the evil?

Woman's love for peace

The tributes paid to Queen Alexandra for her life of gentle kindliness and by usefulness are all deserved. But to me it is passing strange that in all that has been said and written during these last days the greatest of her public utterances should have been steadily ignored. Let me tell the story here.

The year 1905 was memorable for more than misery and unemployment. It was a time of feverish war talk, of tireless warmongering and prophecy

Queen Alexandra shrank from it all. She dreaded the accumulating of warlike material, the multiplication of cannons and soldiers. One day in May she stood on the deck of the *Victoria and Albert*, the royal yacht, watching naval manœuvres, and she talked to M. Richet, the French Minister.

"It is the duty of queens," said her Majesty, "to educate their children for their high and difficult position, and to bring aid to the distressed and unfortunate." Talk followed on battleships, and then came the words which

The late Queen Alexandra, whose whole life was devoted to the cause of peace and humanity

ought to be blazoned in letters of gold wherever women congregate:

"*We women speak for peace, peace within every nation, and between every nation.*"

Do we? Do we? Let every woman who wishes to pay homage to this august memory ask herself the question.

Words that will live

I have given here what every preacher and statesman seems to have forgotten, the real message of Alexandra's life.

It is only when women everywhere take up that royal challenge, live out in word and deed its every implication, that the world for little children will become what she wished to see it, a place of happiness and roses.

Shall the Unfit Marry?

by **DR. MARIE STOPES** (*President of the Society for Constructive Birth Control and Racial Progress, Author of "Married Love"*)

DR. STOPES is making every endeavour to reply to readers' queries, but owing to the enormous number received, delay is inevitable. Correspondence addressed to her at this office will be dealt with if a stamped addressed envelope is enclosed.

PEOPLE are beginning to consider seriously the awful problems involved in ill-health and the racial degeneracy of recent times. Even quite religious people of the good old-fashioned type are beginning to agree and whisper among themselves that we must not allow diseased parents to bring forth diseased children.

They arrive at the nice comfortable conclusion that "the Government must do something." They come to the conclusion that "certificates of health for marriage" shall be made compulsory; that a law shall be passed that everyone must be examined before marriage, and produce a medical health certificate to the registrar or the clergyman before being allowed to marry. Then all will be well!

THE childish simplicity of this ridiculous Gilbertian position makes one smile. It would seem unbelievable if it were not true that serious bodies, "commissions," conferences, etc., solemnly bring forth this idea as a solution of our national health troubles.

I'm told that some of the smaller States in America have actually even got such measures through the earlier Parliamentary stages.

But marriage health certificates are very good, all sorts of nice people will exclaim. It would be a very good thing for them to be *fashionable*, but a very bad thing to be *compulsorily legal*.

COMPULSORY certificates of health would make marriage more difficult and put off a lot of people. Some would not like the idea of the intrusion into their own lives; some would resent the exposure of a defect which they either wished to conceal or were unconscious of.

Marriage, therefore, would be much more difficult than at present, and one result would be an increase in illicit union. Instead of being a bulwark for marriage certificates of health would tend to disrupt it if made compulsory.

Marriage is a very precious institution, which is at present being undermined from many sides, and we cannot afford to have it tinkered with hastily and foolishly by people who do not look under the surface.

I think it should be the fashion that before marriage the young man should show a clean bill of health to the girl's father and the young woman a clean bill of health to the man's mother. If they are really pals and mates they should also show them to each other. It would make life much easier for many couples if each knew not only the other's delightful surfaces but something of the difficulties and perhaps little local weaknesses.

Now about the unfit. Let us imagine two people utterly unfit for parenthood. Lonely, needing even more than ordinary healthy persons the comfort and companionship of marriage, are they to be prevented from marrying as they certainly would be were certificates of health compulsory? No.

In my opinion, two hopeless crocks would be far better married than unmarried. Let them spend their time nursing each other.

MY advice to complete crocks of opposite sexes is: Marry and restrict the miseries involved in your state to your own circle. But, of course, see that by no possible carelessness or chance do you generate a child from your union.

Here, of course, once more, as always when dealing with social problems, we come to the necessity and value of the control of conception in some shape or form.

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And now! Wheat—most trusted, best-liked food in the world—as a delicious drink . . . in the form of Instant Postum.

Instant Postum is roasted whole wheat and bran with a little added sugar-cane molasses. It is the precious elements of the harvest-field concentrated into tiny sparkling granules of goodness instantly soluble in boiling water. The skilful roasting process brings out the natural nutty flavour of the wheat-kernel. You'll like Instant Postum. Then you will discover that it is not only "a jolly good drink," but that it is "jolly good" *for* you. That is because its good taste is due entirely to its wholesome purity. Th re's not a trace of drugs, not a hint of harm in all the Instant Postum that has ever been or ever will be drunk.

You can make it in a moment exactly to your taste. You can enjoy the goodness of its flavour and the flavour of its goodness for l.ss than a halfpenny a cup.

Give it a month's trial

You can't expect to discover how much better Instant Postum is for you than other hot drinks unless you give it a fair trial; can you? So we suggest that you drink it, not once or twice, not even now and again, for a change," but steadily, for, say, a month. That will give you a real chance to prove how much good it does you how much better you really do feel for drinking it regularly. In order to start you on this test, we will send you the first week's supply—free.

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The Grape Nuts Co., Dept. B.U. 14, 8, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2.

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—a fine big pudding with lots of BIRD'S Custard sauce.

BIRD'S CUSTARD

served hot with steamed puddings is the finest source of energy, warmth and good cheer that can now be served.

Try this delicious Prune Pudding:—

1 lb. Prunes (cooked and stoned). 3 ozs. Flour. 3 ozs. Sugar (brown). Pinch of Salt. 3 ozs. Breadcrumbs. Nutmeg to taste. ½ pint milk (scant measure). 3 ozs. suet. 1 piled up teaspoon of BIRD'S EGG SUBSTITUTE.

DIRECTIONS.—Stew the Prunes and stone them. Mix all the dry ingredients well together, then the Prunes and milk. Pour into a well-greased basin, steam for 3½ hours. Serve with BIRD'S Custard as hot sauce. Equally good with apple, fig, marmalade, or any steamed pudding.

Now is the time to give plenty of Bird's Custard and Pudding to growing boys and girls. It's just the food to build up sturdy limbs and to keep them fit.

And for town workers nothing is so appetising and nourishing as Bird's Custard *served hot* with these puddings. It is exactly the food to replace the daily wear and tear, and to fortify against winter chills.

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"OXO"

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Not Me!
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We invite all JOHN BULL readers who suffer from any of the ailments named to write for a free sample and special "No Cure—No Pay" Offer, together with full particulars of this remarkable remedy, or send 5/- for a full month's treatment and commence your cure without delay. Write NOW! The New Era Treatment Co. (Dept. 154), Cecil House, Holborn Viaduct, London.

Elasto cures: Varicose Veins, Ulcers, Eczema, Piles, Hardness Arteries and Glands, Prolapsus and all run down conditions.

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Mothers, don't let colds settle. At the first cough or sneeze, rub Musterole on the throat and chest.

Musterole is a pure, white ointment made with oil of mustard. It draws out congestion, relieves soreness, does all the work of the good old-fashioned mustard plaster in a gentler way, without the blister.

Keep a jar handy. It may prevent pneumonia in your home.

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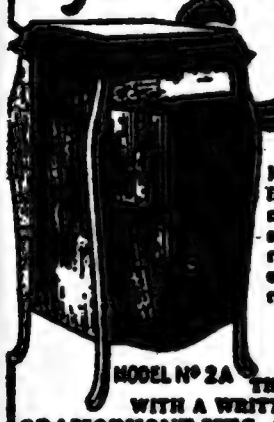

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Human Documents

A Debt of Honour

Dangerous Interference—A Secret Loan—Shameful Tempters

"MY problem is one which I am afraid affects a good many soldiers in the Army of Occupation on the Rhine, and if you can help me in my difficulty, I am sure you will be helping many others.

"I have always missed a mother's love and guidance, for my parents died while I was a baby, and I was brought up by my grandmother. As early as fourteen, I realised that I was not being treated the same as other children, and as soon as I left school, I ran away to sea.

"When I was sixteen, I joined the Army, giving my age as two years older, and I have spent nearly five years in Cologne.

"There I met a young woman who could speak English, and, seeing the same sort of thing all round me, I attached myself to her, and found a good deal of consolation for my loneliness in her companionship.

"She was seven years older than I, and though she had not led a chaste life before I met her, to the best of my belief she remained faithful to me throughout the time of our association, and she provided me with a home and comfortable surroundings which I had never known before.

"I RETURNED to this country last year, and now I have been forced to realise that in my ignorance and impetuousness, I have got into an entanglement from which I cannot free myself without causing considerable pain to a woman whom I would not willingly harm, and who for years showed me what seemed unselfish devotion.

"She writes to me constantly, asking when I am going to send for her and marry her, and, to judge by her letters, she is breaking her heart over our enforced separation. Since I have been home, however, I have discovered what a wide difference there is between the relationship which existed between this woman of Cologne and myself and the pure affection of a simple English girl.

"UNTIL I came back to England, I had never known love, except the Continental sort, and since I have become friendly with a good girl here, an entirely fresh outlook on life seems to have been opened to me.

"I have told the English girl of the German affair, and, after reading some of the German woman's letters, she has done a thing which seems to me to show how much nobler is her character than I had conceived possible in a woman.

"She has told me that if I retain any affection for my old lover, rather than break the poor woman's heart, she will go out of my life, and leave me free to marry the other.

"The German woman has a certain amount of money, while the English girl has only herself to offer. My fondness for the former has practically died since the separation, and I feel I love the latter in the way I should love the woman I wished to make my wife. Do you think I owe it as a duty to marry the woman in Cologne?"

"HUMANIST" says:—*The fact that your problem affects many soldiers in the Army of Occupation reflects little credit upon them, and it is impossible not to feel a certain amount of sympathy with the woman of Cologne. If your affection for her is dead, tell the English girl. It would obviously lead only to misery if you married the girl of Cologne. If your remorse is genuine, your best atonement is in your future attitude towards the girl you will marry.*

PROBLEMS that may be yours are dealt with by "Humanist." In every case the name and address of the writer are suppressed so that the authors may not be identified. In cases that are too intimate or are not of sufficient interest to be helpful to others, correspondents must send stamped addressed envelopes if they wish to be answered through the post. Ten shillings is sent to each of the writers of the first four letters printed.

"A YEAR ago I took a situation as a shop-assistant, and my employer invited me to take up my quarters in the house attached to the shop.

A Thankless Task

"I was distressed to find that, though he was satisfactory enough as an employer, his conduct as a husband left a great deal to be desired. He was mean with the housekeeping money, and he very often came home in the small hours of the morning much the worse for drink.

"One morning, on commencing work, I noticed that the wife was rather badly bruised, and she admitted that her injuries had been caused by her husband, and told me he had treated her brutally for years.

"At the first opportunity, I remonstrated with him, but there was no improvement in his conduct. The woman appears to me to be as good a wife and mother and as devoted a pal as any man could wish to have, but when, on a subsequent occasion, he stood up to strike her in my presence, and I rebuked him, he sharply told me I had no right to interfere and gave me a week's notice."

"HUMANIST" says:—*Your motive was good, but interference between man and wife should generally be avoided. Your best way to help is to advise the wife to seek a separation order.*

• • •

"I AM an unmarried mother, and my little girl is six years old. I have always passed as a widow at the factory where I am employed, but I have not known a moment's peace since the Widows' and Orphans' Pensions' Act has been passed, for fear of my true position being found out.

Unmarried Widows

"You may wonder why I passed myself off as widowed. Well, I love my baby, and am proud of her, so that I feel I must talk about her, and my firm is one which will not employ married women though they rather pride themselves on giving work to war widows.

"My baby's father was an Australian soldier, who left the country before the child was born, and I have not seen or heard of him since. How can I explain why I am not drawing a pension under the new Act?"

"HUMANIST" says: *You can only explain vaguely that you are not eligible under the prescribed regulations. I am afraid there are many cases in which the sins of the parents are visited on the children in this way, but until the children of unmarried mothers are brought into the scheme as orphans, the little one must suffer as well as yourself by the father's desertion.*

JOHN BULL'S XMAS GIFT
IMPORTANT NOTICE
See page 2

"THREE years ago my son came home in great distress, and begged me to lend him a rather large sum of money as he had got into the hands of a bookmaker, and was in dread lest he might be sent to prison if he did not pay up.

A Mother's Trouble

"My savings were insufficient for the purpose, but mother-like my heart went out to the boy, and I borrowed £10 from an old friend to make up the amount and handed it over to him, telling him how I had raised it and expressing the hope that this plight would prove a lesson to him and that he would forsake gambling in future.

"He promised to pay me back £1 weekly, and for a few weeks he did so, but, falling out of employment, he was for a long time unable to give me anything. He has since obtained a good position, but he has neglected his obligation to me.

"Now my friend's patience is exhausted and I am threatened with proceedings to recover the £10 I borrowed. I did not tell my husband of the matter, for he has always been out of sympathy with the boy, and I feared if he knew I had any money put aside he would grab it himself for his own selfish amusement.

"He has since found it out, but instead of helping me heaps abuse on my head and keeps me even shorter of money than usual. Please advise me what to do."

"HUMANIST" says: *Your son's ingratitude is very distressing, lad I am afraid you cannot make your husband liable for the money which you borrowed. All you can do is to explain the circumstances to the lender, who, as an old friend will allow you to discharge the debt by small instalments.*

• • •

A Girl's Danger

"A few months ago, my daughter went to London to take up occupation as a waitress, and, though she is comfortable in her work, she tells me that the people at her lodgings are trying to persuade her into a bad way of living. What can I do to save her from the shame with which she is threatened?"

"Humanist" says:—*Communicate with the Secretary, Travellers' Aid Society, 6, Baker Street, London, W.1, who will take every care to see that your daughter is accommodated in lodgings where she will not be subjected to such influences.*

Serious Slander

"I am engaged to be married to a man in whom I have complete confidence, but his brother has recently suggested that he is already married, and, though he brings no proof of his assertion, it is naturally causing great trouble between us. My fiancé denies the allegation, but I feel something should be done to settle the matter."

"Humanist" says:—*If your fiancé's brother will not produce any proof of his allegation, get a solicitor to write to him saying that action will be taken unless he retracts.*

Mercenary Mother-in-law

"I am separated from my husband, but he sends the money to which I am entitled to my mother-in-law, and she only gives it to me if and when she thinks she will. What can I do?"

"Humanist" says:—*Go to the court and ask for your alimony to be paid direct to the clerk. Then you can collect it, and take action if it is not paid regularly.*

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—the demand for the New Midland Book

WORD has gone round that the new Midland Book is "something quite out of the ordinary." Everyone is writing to get it. Everywhere people are "swept off their feet" by the amazing values, the immense choice of beautiful furniture, the terms in which every conceivable difficulty is foreseen and averted.

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JUNOPHONE

Our Letter Parliament

The Poor Man's Beer

Insurance Fleecers—Luxury Parades—"Slink" Horrors

Brief to-the-point letters not exceeding 100 words are invited. 5s. is paid for each letter published. Name and address essential, not necessarily for publication. Envelopes must be marked "Letter Parliament."

Prohibition and Thrift

Lord Salvesen in his article "The Working Man's Pint" has made out a convincing case against Prohibition. But one thing he has omitted to explain. What connection is there between Prohibition and the great increase in the savings of the American people deposited in the banks during the years Prohibition has been in force? If Prohibition makes people drink more and the drink is more expensive, where does the money come from to save?—*Puzzled, Lancs.*

Unjust Discrimination

One thing is clear from Lord Salvesen's article on Prohibition in America—that is, that it is only effective as regards the working-classes. The rich man can obtain his liquor by private still, bootlegging, and heavy expenditure, but it is evident that such methods are only open to the rich. Such unjust discrimination between the classes is sufficient to condemn Prohibition, and until it can be enforced on everybody without regard to rank, the system stands condemned in any democratic community.—*F. L. Mel., Aylesbury.*

Local Option the Start

The appalling wave of drunkenness and crime that has followed in the wake of the compulsory abolition of drink in America should warn us not to be tricked into adopting Prohibition via local option. In this country it would create worse evil than even in America, owing to the climatic differences.—*A. W. Simons, Wood Green.*

Pharisaical Prohibition

Pure beer, hot meals, plentiful seating accommodation in comfortable surroundings, and provision for games in every public-house would do far more than any pharisaical Prohibition laws to promote real temperance. The appalling figures of crime, lunacy and drunkenness in Prohibition America sufficiently show the folly of trying to make people sober by Act of Parliament. Change the present "pubs" into places where real refreshment, recreation and rest may be obtained, and let those licence-holders who will not "toe the line" be punished by having to forfeit their licences.—"*Nunc Est Bibendum,*" *Edinburgh.*

Toddler's Toddy

The Prohibition party quickly turn to the law courts for "strong" arguments. The temperate working-man will therefore rejoice in the knowledge that he has a champion in the person of a famous Scottish Judge. Lord Salvesen remarked upon the temperate state of the Continent, but to anyone who has there witnessed a toddling child drink its glass of beer in place of the impure water, as in France, it would seem that the hush! hush! policy in this country is more conducive to recklessness than less prejudiced ideas on the drink question could ever be.—*M. Templeton, London.*

Whisky Prescriptions

In Lord Salvesen's article he states that "many Americans still think that whisky is an excellent medicine for influenza and other complaints, and so the doctors can lawfully prescribe whisky at three dollars a prescription for any patient." His lordship cannot be ignorant of the statement of Dr. Alfred Hess, the celebrated New York physician, that 83 per cent. of the doctors in the United States have not taken out the licence necessary if they are to prescribe alcohol at all. To suppress such evidence is neither judicious nor judicial.—*A. B. Chance, Glasgow.*

Policeman's Blind Eye

Lord Salvesen states that the number of arrests for drunkenness in 300 cities in America in 1923 was six times as great as in the whole of England last year. It is obvious that in a country where intoxicating drink is prohibited by law, every person under the influence of drink would be arrested, whereas in England they are only arrested if causing a "breach of the peace." If every drunken person, peaceable and otherwise, were arrested the figures might easily be reversed.—*J. G. B., Wigton.*

Grandmotherly Legislation

It is encouraging that after so many attacks by distinguished people upon the working-man, his habits, laziness, drunkenness, ignorance and Communist propensities, such a famous advocate as Lord Salvesen writes to protect the worker's modest pint. America is full of crank laws—the futile Volstead Act can be numbered with them. We have our laws for drunkards, and enough grandmotherly legislation. Let every "pub." be made a club; and give our industrial workers a little of the comfort of the Bond Street shirkers.—*Plebs, Brockley.*

The Church's Neglect

Canon Donaldson's "tragic picture" condemns the Church for neglecting her Christian mission in denouncing those employers of labour who batten on the poverty of the worker. The Church cleric in our rural villages is a supporter of squiredom, who looks upon the worker as a "hewer of wood and a drawer of water," and who has been "gulled" with the nostrum—"Live hard, work hard," then a "mansion in the skies." Thanks to education the day of reckoning is at hand.—*T. R. Daly, Surrey.*

Fleeced Policies

Your exposure of the heartless transactions committed by the industrial insurance societies and collecting societies comes none too soon. It becomes the duty of all Parties in the House to tackle this nuisance immediately, by instituting without delay a searching enquiry, and making liable by law the refundment of all "fleeced" policies.—*A. H. C. Minns, Essex.*

Printers' Pie

(Half a-crown is paid to the sender of every item published. Mark envelopes "Pie.")

"SOUTH WALES ECHO":—An operating theatre will be added and other GAMES during the winter."

"WOMAN'S WORLD":—"Stir until it boils, then add ½-glass sherry and sufficient WATER to SWEETEN it."

"GLASGOW FORWARD":—"Two years have elapsed, and SEVEN of them were spent at Lochlea."

"THE ADVENTURE":—"Blandly Mr. Edwards looked DOWN from the floor to the LOFT."

"YORKSHIRE EVENING POST" (advert.):—"Miss . . . teaches Ballroom Dancing; 1 lesson 2s., 5 lessons TORTOISE-SHELL EYEGLASSES; A KEEPSAKE."

"GAIETY MAGAZINE":—"My own son, NINE years old, begging and whining for a dog for the last SIXTEEN years, and I refuse him: and what happens?"

A Challenge

I entirely disagree with Mr. Frank Gray's article, "The Great Unwashed." He divides the tramp class into five categories—the criminal, drunkard, lunatic, out of work navvy, and last the person who has fallen out of the race of life. Oxfordshire, perhaps, would draw this class because of the colleges. He mentions he found few genuine workers. I challenge Mr. Frank Gray to another tour with me through any county except Oxfordshire, and I will prove to him there are men, hard genuine workers, in our casual wards.—*Clive Glyn, Berks.*

The Casual's Bath

I endorse every word of Frank Gray, for I had the misfortune to have to pass through the casual wards of Oxfordshire in search of employment. He was very fortunate to get bread, margarine and cheese; I got dry bread and water and was then detained the next day to work and pay for it at one of the casual wards. The master threatened to give me in charge because I refused to get into a bath that was filthy and dirty.—*Disgusted, Harrogate.*

Parades that Repel

The Prime Minister and the Archbishop of York have spoken out against the extravagant display of luxury, but it is necessary that a more determined and defiant stand should be made. Take hunting, for example. Here there is a flaunting of elaborate motor-cars, hunters and grooms, and less fortunate people think that enjoyment might be obtained without such waste. An ostentatious parade of luxury makes poor people rebellious.—*No Luxury, Scarborough.*

Submarine Savers

We spend an enormous amount of money annually on naval armaments. Cannot a small amount be utilised for perfecting a device whereby a submarine which sinks involuntarily, can send to the surface a signal—say in the form of a buoy—indicating its position to the rescue party. Further, why should it be necessary to send to Germany for suitable rescue apparatus—when it is too late?—*G. J. Murrell, Birmingham.*

How the Poor Live!

The article, "The Great 'Slink' Trade," lays bare what is unfortunately only too true. A few years ago I was employed by an apparently respectable butcher. Carcases which were tuberculous were brought from a farm in the country. On arrival at the shop the meat was heralded with the remark, "Hello! here's another one been killed to save its life." Taken to the rear of the premises, it was cut up to be sold in the street to poor people whose first consideration was quantity not quality. Any that was returned from the vans was used to inflate sausage-skins and incidentally the profits.—*Sirloin, Cheshire.*

Messages of Hope

May I offer my thanks to Mr. Philip Inman for his comforting weekly articles in JOHN BULL? On happier occasions I would have congratulated him for what were then to me only statements of fact or marvels of medical skill. I have lately, however, learnt to appreciate more fully the intrinsic value of his contributions for their power to renew with hope hearts filled with despair. I read of the remarkable transformation wrought in the human wreck, No. 7, and have asked myself the question: "Why not a similar fate for me, though No. 13 in this ward?"—*D. T. A. W., St. George's Hospital, London.*

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Radio Talks.

Conference by Wireless

by Professor A. M. LOW, Fellow of the Radio Association

THE ever-popular crystal set, which with the new high-power stations proposed by the B.B.C. should remove any excuse as to lack of wireless in the house, has the advantage that it is simple and reliable.

Listeners should remember that the crystal itself requires a certain amount of attention. Sometimes the addition of a very light coil spring between the whisker and its holder will improve reception and prevent noises due to vibration of the cat's whisker itself.

A piece of muslin kept over the crystal cup, allowing the whisker to pass through it to the crystal, is very useful in keeping dirt and moisture from the working surfaces.

• • •

THE new Amplion loud-speaker, made in the enclosed form reminiscent of a mantelpiece clock, has gone far to prove that volume and purity of tone are not inseparable.

Very little "tin-trumpet" noise is heard from this instrument, which gives the impression that we are approaching more closely to the time when wireless will be able to replace the need for educational travel.

It would not be very difficult to arrange for every telephone subscriber to receive a broadcast call through his ordinary business telephone, and as wireless is seldom available other than in the home, it might be useful in a case of national emergency to be able to broadcast a call on the telephone and radio combined.

Some very fine phrases have been used concerning the use of wireless as a national asset and of its value in bringing about international peace. This is quite true. The day cannot be far distant when an international conference could be held by radio.

• • •

MY recent notes on the importance of accumulator-charging have brought me enquiries from a number of people who have never troubled to enquire as to the principle of the secondary battery.

The principle of the accumulator is quite simple. Two lead plates, for a single unit of about two volts, are immersed in weak sulphuric acid and holes over the surface of the plates are used to increase the area of lead exposed.

These holes are filled with oxide of lead and when a current is passed through the cell the lead oxide becomes electrically turned into metallic lead in a spongy condition. The other plate is mostly turned from metallic lead into peroxide of lead.

If an electrical current is passed through a cell containing two lead plates immersed in weak acid the positive pole plate becomes coated with lead peroxide and the negative with finely divided lead.

It would be possible actually to manufacture accumulators in this way. As soon as the chemically converting or charging process is completed, the action is reversed on the plates as current is drawn from the accumulator which acts by chemically converting the energy of the electrical current passed through it.

Well-made accumulators properly charged are essential for the best results and for producing that silent background which is necessary for pleasant reception.

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Six Jolly Old Jumpers

The Winter Racing Game—Why Punters Die Poor—Trainers for Courses—French Leppers are Useful—"Steve" Flys His Own 'Plane

THE Ned Carver season is with us once more, but I am an optimist, I live on hope. I hope, and I also believe, that the code selections are going to be as successful over the sticks during 1925 and 1926 as they have been in the past. Last year they won 35 points, the previous season 22. I hope that the racing executives will wake up to the fact that as the race-goers pay the piper they will be given a say in the tune. In fact, we want better racing. Ned Carver beating Tim, and Tim beating Ned Carver every other week gets a bit monotonous. I hope the stewards take a firm grip of the reins and do not allow the jockeys who "fall off" in the country to get away with it. N. H. racing has a bad name. I hope that Ruddyglow wins the National—but this is anticipating a little too much.

Why Punters Die Poor

The jumping game has increased in popularity to such an extent during the last few years that its hold on the racing public is now almost as great as the flat. Of the two it is a much finer sport to witness, but when you plank your money down and see the horses rising at the jumps you realise why bookmakers leave fortunes and punters die poor.

F. B. Rees, the champion jockey over hurdles and fences

For Occasional Flutterers

My letter-bag tells me that a large number of JOHN BULL readers are wideawake to the hurdles and the fences, but that they enjoy an occasional flutter, and for their benefit I am putting up six jumpers to follow consistently throughout the season. I do not think they will have any regrets.

Trainers for Courses

This list of trainers who invariably win year after year at certain meetings will be useful to enter in your note-book;

Manchester and Haydock.—Coulthwaite and Irish trainers.

Hurst Park, Kempton and Sandown.—Frank Hartigan.

Cheltenham.—Newey and Piggott.

Newbury.—East.

Leicester.—Vasey and Lyall.

Birmingham.—H. Harrison and W. Payne.

I have not mentioned Poole, Bennett, and Nightingall, as they are prolific winners all over the country.

French Leppers are Useful

Don't lose sight of any of the French horses likely to arrive in this country to be trained for jumping during the next few weeks. Generally speaking a better class of horse is put to jumping in France than with us, and I know they are after some of the plums.

Double Chance out with the Hounds

I noticed that Double Chance, the Grand National winner, was out recently with the Newmarket and Thurlow hounds. I don't think one can beat this method of training a 'chaser. It is certain to prove his stamina. F. Archer kept the gelded son of Roi Herode busy with the hounds prior to his victory at Aintree, and he was fully aware that the horse would last out the tiring course. After the race Double Chance did not blow sufficiently to put out a candle. No doubt Archer believes what can be done once can be done again, but the eight-year-old will have considerably more than 10st. 9lb. to shoulder. Some of the "list" men are offering 14 to 1 Double Chance, and his name is coupled with Ruddyglow and Silvo. These odds are ridiculous so far ahead.

MY SIX MONEY-SPINNERS
Follow them over the Sticks

GRECIAN WAVE.—A seven-year-old 'chaser who hails from the land of Troytown. Spoilt an excellent chance of winning the Grand Sefton by taking the wrong course.

EMPHATIC.—One of the most consistent two-mile hurdlers in training. Won eight races last season and scored again recently. Still in the able hands of M'Kenna.

MISCONDUCT.—Capt. Powell, the successful trainer of 1924–25, trains this gelding. He will do the stable several good turns, probably at nice prices. Ran fourth in the Grand Sefton.

PETER PAX.—Fit from flat racing this one is very useful over hurdles at two miles.

CRIMSON DAWN.—Escott, just back from America, has taken charge of this novice at the jumping game. From what I have seen of Crimson Dawn, I am convinced he will make good.

SPANISH THORN.—A brilliant young hurdler who is likely to put up a winning sequence in the early stages of the season.

Bad Time for Tipsters

One of the well-known tipsters who frequents nearly every meeting was telling me last week that the back-end had been a bad time for members of his profession. As he pointed out, the winners which have been turning up would break the bank of Monte Carlo. Turf tipsters are very go-ahead people. One I noticed at the recent Hurst Park meeting had evidently been studying Harry Tate. He supplied a youth to heckle him in order to gather a crowd of mugs. The youngster's parrot-like cry was "If you can give the winner of every race why don't you back 'em?" Like little Willie, I also wonder why!

Ptolemy Still Considered a Crack

It is early days to talk of the Lincoln, but prices are on offer. The only wager which would tempt me would be a fancy bet the French contingent, all in. In my opinion 100—7 would be a fair price. The invaders will show a bold hand and I anticipate Ptolemy's name in the entries. Bob Denman has considered all along that the son of Teddy is a smasher, and although he failed to prove this at Epsom, the Lincoln mile may show up the colt in a different light. Denman pocketed the Carholme event in runaway fashion with Sir Gallahad, and I shall not be at all surprised if he repeats the trick.

Is the Pari-Mutuel Coming?

Judging by the pains taken by the Chancellor of the Exchequer to obtain first-hand information about the working of the Pari-Mutuel in France, it would seem that there is more likelihood of the adoption of the machine here than is generally realised. The investigators, at any rate, are reporting in favour of its adoption.

Steve, the Airman

I mentioned some time ago that Donoghue had been presented with an aeroplane by one of the well-known race-horse owners. Steve is now learning to fly the little two-seater. I think he finds it more simple than riding Derby winners. I met Donoghue's brother, George, the other day. George has not found fame and fortune. Just now he is down on his luck.

Successful "Soccer" Selections

Are you following the "Soccer" selections given below? Twenty week-end cup matches were predicted successfully on Saturday, November 21.

"SILVER RING."

Two coded selections will be given daily in the following papers:—

Sporting Life and Sportsman, Chronicle, Mid-day Sporting Pink, Western Mail, Glasgow News Record, Irish Independent, Sporting Man, The Sheffield Mail.

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How to read the code: In place of the letters or figures advertised in the daily papers read those above or below the line as the case may be.

QGH32TNUMCNT would read DOUBLE CHANCE.

This code will be changed in next week's JOHN BULL. It covers the racing from Wednesday, December 2, to Tuesday December 8.

"Soccer"

WEEK-END COUPS.

6 HOME.—Huddersfield, Sunderland, Chelsea, Doncaster, Plymouth, Celtic.

5 HOME.—Manchester C., Sunderland, Chelsea, Plymouth, Southend.

4 HOME.—Bury, Everton, Southend, Celtic.

3 AWAY.—Bolton, Preston, Grimsby.

3 DRAWS.—West Bromwich v. Newcastle, Southampton v. South Shields, Aberdeen v. Hearts.

3 HOME 2 AWAY.—Chelsea, Plymouth, Celtic, Notts Co., Sheffield Wednesday.

1 HOME, 1 AWAY, 1 DRAW.—Sunderland, Preston, Bradford C. v. Portsmouth.

FORECASTS FOR DEC. 12.

THE LEAGUE.—DIVISION I.

HOME WINNERS.—Arsenal, Aston Villa, Bolton, Leicester, Liverpool, Manchester U., Newcastle.

For Racing Advice
WORTH FOLLOWING
Read
The Sporting Life
and Sportsman

Selections

AWAY WINNERS.—Tottenham, Birmingham.

DRAWS.—Leeds v. Manchester C., Notts Co. v. Sunderland.

THE LEAGUE.—DIVISION II.

HOME WINNERS.—Middlesbrough, Portsmouth, Preston, South Shields, Stockport, Swansea, Sheffield Wednesday, Wolverhampton.

AWAY WINNERS.—Derby, Notts Forest.

DRAW.—Fulham v. Port Vale.

THE LEAGUE.—DIVISION III. (NORTHERN).

HOME WINNERS.—Bradford, Chesterfield, Durham, Grimsby, Halifax, Rochdale.

AWAY WINNERS.—Coventry, Ashington.

DRAWS.—Accrington v. Doncaster, Rotherham v. Lincoln.

THE LEAGUE.—DIVISION III. (SOUTHERN).

HOME WINNERS.—Bristol R., Charlton, Exeter, Gillingham, Merthyr, Newport, Queen's Park Rangers, Reading, Swindon.

AWAY WINNER.—Bristol C.

DRAW.—Luton v. Northampton.

THE SCOTTISH LEAGUE.

HOME WINNERS.—Dundee, Falkirk, Hamilton, Hearts, Glasgow Rangers, St. Mirren.

AWAY WINNERS.—Airdrie, Motherwell.

DRAWS.—Morton v. Cowdenbeath, Partick v. Aberdeen.

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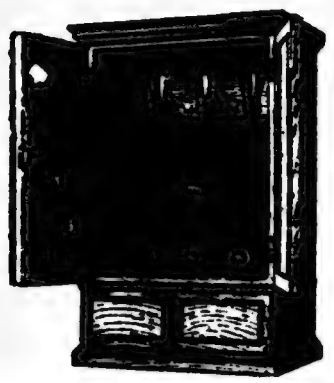

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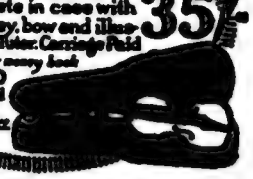

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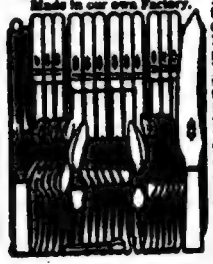

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FOR ONE WEEK ONLY

John Bull Replies

THE Editor may be flippant on this page, but his humour is kindly and never malicious. He likes to end up the week's work on a bright note. Serious questions are handled by the expert staff of our Free Advice Service.

"JOHN BULL'S" paramount aim is to help its readers in any difficulty that they may encounter during their journey through life.

For this purpose our Advice Service was instituted, presided over by those capable of giving advice on any matter whatever.

You can secure the advantage of this Service by writing and giving particulars enclosing stamped addressed envelope.

N. T. (Uxbridge).—"What is the capital of Poland?" P.

A. L. (Troon).—"Who listens to organ recitals these days?" Doctors.

J. L. B. (Tonbridge).—"What can I do with my hasty temper?" Temper it.

S. V. (Dover).—"Is love blind?" Short-sighted, at least—judging by some husbands.

C. I. B. (Kensington).—"Our maid can't do enough for us." Most of them are like that.

P. L. (Southend).—"He's the biggest bore in this town." Hush! You forget yourself.

P. L. (Salford).—"As a golfer I play a fair game." That's right. It doesn't pay to cheat.

Mrs. B. (Congleton).—"To meet a black cat is always lucky." Except, we take it, for a mouse.

M. H. (Bristol).—"I still stick to my cold bath every morning." Why not give the enamel a chance to dry?

G. I. L. (Hornsey).—"Socialists seem to think it's a crime for any man to make money." So does Scotland Yard.

P. T. (Goole).—"I am putting on weight rapidly." Soon you'll have to be measured for a longer watch-chain.

N. J. (Bermondsey).—"I suppose you wouldn't like a series of poems from my pen?" You're a thought-reader.

A. A. B. (Rainham).—"Why do we go grey?" Have you never heard of an institution known as the income-tax?

JENNIE (Pontefract).—"I always go to bed between nine and ten." Gee! Overcrowding must be pretty bad where you live.

BERNIE (Evercreech).—"I'll never allow it to be said a woman made a fool of me." You prefer to leave the blame with Nature.

BERTIE (Oxford).—"I'm worried because I have something preying on my mind." You needn't be. It will soon die of starvation.

D. L. (Totnes).—"I enclose a tragedy in five acts I have written." The office boy is reading it. We have to be stern with him sometimes.

L. N. (Cheam).—"You can tell a man's character by the way he eats." If he blows on his soup you'll know he puts caution before everything else.

J. McT. (Aberdeen).—"Mr. Lloyd George recently spent a Sunday here." This refutes the rumour that nobody ever spends anything in Aberdeen.

K. P. (Sandy).—"If caterpillars attack fruit-trees the best thing is to put a ring of whitewash round their middles." But what a fiddling job it would be to decorate the little worms in that fashion.

ETHEL G. (Somers Town).—"When we made it up after our quarrel, my boy called me the light of his life." Then in future be sure you convince him that you're not easily put out.

J. J. (Lancaster).—"What is the political colour of JOHN BULL?" We're absolutely independent although we're read from cover to cover, never have the blues, are always in the pink, and say what we think in black and white.

P. P. (Portsmouth).—"I'm told I have a very long head." Why don't you use it as a rule?

G. H. (Bradford).—"Could you squeeze in a reply to this letter?" Yes; we've just managed it.

P. J. (Monmouth).—"The best dancers never rush their tuition." No, they learn step by step.

T. C. (Croydon).—"Where are you going this Christmas?" No, thanks! You tell us first.

M. C. (Daventry).—"I don't want to be quite killed by care." Then you must take care not to be.

JOE B. (Manchester).—"Can you suggest how I can get a job with the movies?" Drive a furniture van.

P. A. (Elstree).—"I'm a bit of a thinker." Granted: we hope you'll soon acquire the remaining 99 per cent.

M. S. (London, S.W.).—"Is there a perfect man?" Oh, yes. The predecessor of a woman's second husband.

Mrs. F. (Bentham).—"My children all inherit my own love of truth." We wondered what was becoming of it.

Mrs. W. (Doncaster).—"All decent men should grow beards." It would certainly keep them out of many a scrape.

F. W. P. (Settle).—"I tell him all he says goes in at one ear and out of the other." There's no reason why it shouldn't.

Mrs. C. (Shoreditch).—"I tell my neighbours I'm all for Sunday closing." We are sure they will encourage you to shut up.

G. F. T. (Chorley).—"My son writes home only when he's got into a hole." Well, no doubt you sent him out to find an opening.

M. G. (Southampton).—"How can you fill the kiddies' stockings when your own is empty?" We shall be filling 2,025 stockings with *Bullets* Christmas Prizes, including one of £1,500. Send your *Bullet* now.

A. L. (London, S.W.).—"Do you think the bustle will ever be fashionable again?" No. Girls bustle better in short skirts.

G. N. (Mitcham).—"Who rocks the cradle rules the world." But it's a nuisance getting up in the middle of the night to rule the world.

"SHY" (Islington).—"I'm on the brink of proposing, but her cold manner puts me off." Never mind! Break the ice and take the plunge.

"MALE" (Erith).—"Women are either perfectly divine, or perfect nonentities." Some, in fact, are extraordinary, while others are extra ordinary.

S. A. G. (Horton).—"In the country many people are skating on real thick ice before Christmas." In the towns many people skate on thin ice all the year round.

Rules to Remember

THOSE who are qualifying for their Free 10s. 6d. Razor Sets this week are asked to observe the following simple conditions in order to facilitate prompt despatch:—

1. Where a "John Bull" reader has introduced a friend both his own and his friend's Gift Vouchers must be sent in *together* to "John Bull" in the same envelope. DO NOT send in separately. DO NOT enclose any correspondence.
2. Both your own and your friend's Gift Vouchers MUST be properly completed before either of you is qualified for your Gift.
3. Be sure to enclose correct amount to cover postage, packing and insurance of sets to your respective addresses—*i.e.*, 6d. for your own set and 6d. for your friend's set, making *one shilling* in all. Cross P.O.'s "and Co.", and make payable to "John Bull."

N. J. (Highgate).—"How do you find things?" We look for them.

P. H. (York).—"I rent a large allotment for 6d. a week." Dirt cheap.

T. W. (Fulham).—"To succeed, a girl must stick it." Lots of them lip-stick it.

GERTIE (Willesden).—"What is a good hobby for a woman?" Her hubby.

N. L. (Wells).—"You smoke in your office, I presume." We do. You do.

M. L. (Northampton).—"I am the father of triplets." Poor fellow, poor fellow, poor fellow!

L. M. (Bungay).—"I intend to write poetry under assumed initials." We suggest W.P.B.

W. H. (Brighton).—"I started life as a bootblack." Well, that is a job you would shine at.

G. V. (Peckham).—"In my 'teens I was a violent Red." We trust you're not so green now.

D. E. (Leeds).—"Can you put me into the way of getting a few pounds?" Enter the boxing-ring and you'll be sure of getting a few good pounds.

K. V. (Sandhurst).—"Have you ever seen a two-headed calf?" We saw a man in Hyde Park only yesterday who had two heads on his shoulders.

G. H. (Manchester).—"There are two actors among those who have joined our Christmas goose club." Then for once they won't mind getting the bird.

Mrs. D. (Golders Green).—"Judging from my letter you'll see my husband is something in the City." Judging from your letter we see he's nothing at home.

A. H. (Lincoln).—"Are there any tribes left who are cannibals and where do they live?" In this country there are tribes of people who live on their relatives.

G. E. H. (New Malden).—"Is it a fact that one's whole digestive apparatus is affected by changes of weather?" Sorry we have no inside information on the subject.

G. D. (Hoxton).—"I love the song of a lark." We prefer the lay of the hen.

F. H. (Worcester).—"I do my son's home lessons for him." He takes the blame, of course?

N. L. (Cardiff).—"Here is a story to bring a lump into your throat." Alas! We can't swallow it.

BERTIE (Oxford).—"I'm afraid you think I am acting the fool." No, we don't think you're acting.

Mrs. K. V. (Crystal Palace).—"In Japan a wife can be bought for 15s." Possibly a good wife is worth it.

C. J. (Oldham).—"A married man's life is full of little troubles." But he can always keep the nursery door closed.

D. L. (Felixstowe).—"I rather enjoy a walk in the middle of the night." Personally we should give him a sound spanking.

H. N. (Balham).—"When I started business I had a nickel watch and now I have a gold one." Circumstances alter cases.

C. A. (Plymouth).—"He called me an old fool. What ought I to do?" Show him your birth certificate and prove you're not old.

R. S. C. (Eastwood).—"Silence can be very eloquent." We recommend the method when next you want to communicate with us.

Mrs. M. (Hertford).—"My husband used to stay out at night, drink and gamble, but a strong will has changed all that." Yours or his?

G. N. (Streatham).—"What is moral courage?" When you buy furniture on the hire system and don't care if it *isn't* delivered in plain motors.

F. T. P. (St. Helens).—"Drink will kill us one day, says my mate who fetches our dinner beer." He seems to bring the matter home to you all right.

AUCTIONEER (Brighton).—"When selling a fine old painting I asked for a start, and a man had the cheek to bid sixpence." Didn't that give . . . one?

A. C. (Nelson).—"I have written a play calculated to fill an audience with tears." You find managers prefer a play calculated to fill tiers with an audience.

L. C. (Kensington).—"I wonder what is an emigrant's thoughts when he gets his first sight of America." "I see 'dry' land," we should say.

"SIMPLIFY" (Epsom).—"Words pronounced alike should be spelt alike." So when feeling numb with cold, a drop of rumb will comb as welcomb to somb.

C. C. D. (Halifax).—"I'm afraid it won't pay much longer to manufacture cheap goods." Then if the worst comes to the worst you must make the best of things.

(Many replies unavoidably held over.)

TIRED!

Home at last after a busy, worrying day! Nerves all in pieces! Too tired to go out for the evening!

Just drink a cup of delicious, energising "Ovaltine." The rich nourishment it contains in such perfect proportions is rapidly and completely absorbed into the system. Worn cells and tissues gratefully respond to the *natural* help thus given. Fatigue vanishes, overwrought nerves are soothed and that delightful sense of morning energy and fitness is quickly restored.

Drugs and stimulants will not help you. These merely whip up flagging energy and do more harm than good. It *must* be "Ovaltine"—the original preparation made by an exclusive process. "Ovaltine" is your sure guarantee that you are giving your system all the essential vitamins, as well as all the other equally important elements necessary to restore depleted nerve tissue and to replace lost energy.

"Ovaltine" is the very essence of strength. It is the outcome of prolonged investigation of food-stuffs of all kinds. Nothing could be added to "Ovaltine" which would make it more perfect and complete.

"Ovaltine" is a highly concentrated extraction of malt, milk and eggs. It is easily digested and its delicious flavour is enjoyed by everyone.

Make "Ovaltine" your daily beverage—for health, for strength and for vitality.

'OVALTINE' RUSKS

More appetising, easily digested, and much more nourishing than ordinary rusks or biscuits. *1/6 & 2/6 per tin.*

OVALTINE

TONIC FOOD BEVERAGE

Builds-up Brain, Nerve and Body

Sold by all Chemists at 1/6, 2/6 and 4/6.

It is economical to purchase the larger sized tins.

P. 333

BY APPOINTMENT

'You mustn't see how I do it'

IT isn't good for a man to know how simply a clever woman can do great things—he might try to do them himself.

So never let him see how you obtain that rich, spicy flavour he swears he gets nowhere but in his own little house. Let him keep on thinking it takes hours and hours (and three years in a Cookery School) though all the time you know you really produce your results by pouring a few drops out of a bottle. But there is only *one* bottle from which you can pour these glorious cookery flavours, and that's a bottle of—

Yorkshire Relish

9D. PER BOTTLE.

The extra flavour and charm that Yorkshire Relish always gives to meals is quite easily explained—it is simply because the palates of men have through many generations been *trained* to feel the need of spices with their meat—and Yorkshire Relish is composed of these very spices and fine vinegar. Ask your grocer for a bottle to-day—only 9d.

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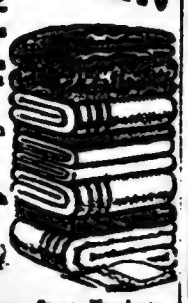

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HORNED TABLE GRAND
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Yewdonia is now better than ever. The whole instrument works with a delightful harmony and management even by the most expensive models. Why delay? Pay 5/- down and enjoy jolly evenings with the famous Yew... Write NOW. Direct from Factory Bargains. Write and see catalogue of beautiful models. ALL BRITISH.
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Price 1st of Coats Coat-Frocks, Free.

MASTERS' SPECIAL OFFER

This offer of this very Stylish Winter Coat will appeal to the lady of moderate means who desires to dress in the latest West End Fashion. We offer this handsome coat on terms which every lady can afford to pay, and you have a coat that looks good, of good material, and is good value. Price only 55/-, on very easy terms.

ONLY 2/6 NOW

All lady readers should take advantage of this generous offer which places within your reach this beautiful Coat—it allows you to be dressed equal to any lady in the land. This model is now the rage of London—it is the latest fashion. It is quite the correct style for this season. Extra well tailored in good quality VELOUR cloth. Double-Breasted effect. 4 Buttons, slit back, 2 pockets. A really good coat at a most reasonable price. Only 55/-, in Tan, Brown, Dark Brown, Red Brown, Black, Navy or Beige. Easy Terms: Send 2/6 now. 4/6 in Ten days, and 7/- monthly, and you have the Coat to wear while paying your monthly instalments. Send 2/6 and ask for Coat No. 8940.

Satisfaction or deposit refunded. Illustrated Price List of Winter Coats, 32/6 to 85/-. Post Free.

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TREATMENTS HAVE FAILED
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SPECIALIST IN THE TREATMENT OF
SKIN & BLOOD DISEASES

We Cure ECZEMA, LUPUS, SYCOSIS (and all Diseases of the Hair and Beard), RINGWORM, ACNE, ITCH, PSORIASIS, SCROFULA, BAD LEGS, ULCERS (Varicose and Rodent), and ALL ERUPTIONS of the SKIN.

A Special Treatment is Prescribed for Each Disease.

No Blood Mixture or Ointment that is advertised is able to cure the Skin Diseases we can, because with us each case has special attention and each patient is given remedies suitable for that particular disease, and our advice is offered free.

We cordially invite the strictest investigation into the method of our treatment. We do not take any money unless there is some chance of a cure. Sufferers should write for our Illustrated Booklet, "J.B.," which will be sent Post Free on application to

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STILL STARVING

Helpless Victims of the Horrors of War

WE have repeatedly drawn attention to the fact that many men who deserve well of their country are unable to obtain even consideration of their plight until they fall into the hands of the police.

Two cases came before the London magistrates last week. In the first instance, a man whose health was completely shattered by his war services was charged with begging. His wife and children were in a condition of semi-starvation, and curiously enough, the police admitted that he was charged as they thought it would be of benefit to him.

Apparently this was, indeed, the case, for the police court missionary stated that as a result of his arrest, his wife and children were now being cared for by the guardians. The magistrate dismissed the charge.

In the second instance, a man who had several medals on his breast, and several fingers missing, fell into the hands of the police for trying to secure sustenance by singing in the street, and the case was put back in order that the missionary might find the man work.

FOR every victim of the War who finds the police court a short cut to interest in his condition, there are a score who suffer in silence. Not merely men who fought, but non-combatant victims of the horrors of war are still starving.

In one particular case, a man lost the whole of his possessions, and was reduced himself to a piece of human wreckage by the explosion of a bomb from an airship. After much tedious correspondence, he was awarded the handsome sum of £6 by way of compensation for his loss and injuries.

Paralysed and unable to work, he is now a chronic invalid, and his wife, who has helped him in the struggle of the last few years, has at last had to take to bed herself.

When the "Greatest of These—" Fund came to their relief, the couple had an income of only a few shillings a week.

Such cases might be multiplied many times over, and we are in urgent need of subscriptions to enable us to carry on the work of succouring these forgotten war sufferers.

"The Greatest of These—"

Registered under the War Charities Act as the John Bull War Sufferers' Fund. All cheques should be made payable to the Fund, and donations addressed to the Hon. Secretary, at 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.2. Every penny that is subscribed to "The Greatest of These—" Fund goes to give help to the needy. All the expenses of administration are borne by JOHN BULL.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

S. F. Dute, 2s. 6d.; Smash-Apple, 1s.; A. Wale, 2s. 6d.; Corstophine, 12s.; C. Naver, 1s.; Bertie, 1s.; Burnley, 1s.; Mrs. M. Bushnell, 1s.; H. B., 1s.; Anon., 2s. 6d.; E. B., Wallington, 1s. 6d.; "1d. Per Week," 1s.; W. Williams, 2s.; W. H., 1s.; J. N. S. M., 6d.; W. Skinner, 6d.; An Old Rover, parcel; Mrs. G. Heatley, parcel; D. Lawson, 6d.; "A. D. Ware," 10s.; "3rd 1925 Ninth," 6d.; A. A. Attride, 1s.; Bettringer, 7s.; Sailor, 2s.; Singer, 3s.; Mrs. Melbourne, 5s.; W. A. Harris, 6d.; F. E. C., 1s.; Jumping Joshua, 2s.; Little Help from Just Me, 5s.; A. M. Y., 3d.; Birmingham, 6d.; E. J. Stone, 1s.; A. Murray, 6d.; "The Two Tanners," 1s.; C. P. G. (Stourbridge), 2s.; E. Purkiss, 1s.; Hexham, 1s.; M. C., One-Ninth, 4s.; A. Kirby, 2s. 3d.; Yetta Mowbray, 2s.; Every Little Helps, 2s. 6d.; Penny Per Diem, 7s. 7d.; J. T. J., 6d.; Mrs. L. Baden, 2s. 6d.; "It May Help," 6d.; "After the Storm," 2s.; Dundee, 1s.; Mrs. E. Sterry, 10s.; P. B., 2s.; T. Ashton, 2s. 6d.; John Nightingale, 1s.; D. J. W. Burk, 1s.; Mrs. G. Davis, parcel; Mrs. Phillip, parcel; In Memory, Bees, 3s.; Anonymous, book; W. Fawcett, 1s.; A. B. H., 2s.; Tweedside, parcel; G. M. (Bradford), 10s.; Thought, 2s.; K. M. Bennett, 1s. 6d.; Mrs. A. Bull, 3s. 6d.; M. Kennerley, 5s.; H. W. Armstrong, 2s.; W. Hewitt, 6d.; R. Grandison, 1s.

(Many acknowledgments unavoidably held over.)

This week's Cross-word Puzzle will be found on page 8

A straight and honest offer to "John Bull" Readers

"My cough has completely disappeared. I have never before taken anything to act so quickly," writes (13-4-25) Mrs. P. Johnson, 64, Dibble Road, Smethwick, after taking "Napoleon" Cough Cure Powders—Test this age-old remedy for yourself at our expense. Send the coupon for two days' free supply.

FREE! 10,000 SAMPLES TO READERS OF "JOHN BULL"

"Napoleon" Cough Cure Powders bring immediate relief. "My son had a dreadful cough, but the Powders cured him. He did not have the cough again after taking the second dose," writes Mrs. E. Low, Tor Cottage, Marldons. (26-5-25.)

This is not a patent medicine or "secret" remedy, but a natural substance used for centuries by learned monks for all chest maladies—'Flu, Bronchitis, Colds and Catarrh. The Government recognises this by dispensing with stamp duty.

£100 GUARANTEE that every one of our hundreds of testimonials is genuine. Mr. M. HILL, 3, Narrow Lane Blackheath, Birmingham, writes (20-2-25): "Your Powders relieved me from the first dose."

"NAPOLEON" Cough Cure Powders

From Chemists, in packets, 1/6. Family size (three times the quantity) 3/9.

Send this COUPON to-day to

H. R. NAPP LTD., 3-4, Clements Inn, London, W.C.2.

Please send me free and without obligation, by return of post, two days' supply of "Napoleon" Cough Cure Powders. (Write clearly in block letters. Use ½d. stamp and leave envelope unsealed.)

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ADDRESS .....
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HUGE "BULLETS" CHRISTMAS OFFER!

FIRST PRIZE

£1,500

2nd. Prize £250

4TH Prize £50

5TH Prize £25

3rd. Prize £100

50 PRIZES OF £2

10 PRIZES OF £10

10 PRIZES OF £5

100 PRIZES OF £1

150 PRIZES OF 10/-

200 PRIZES OF 7/6

500 PRIZES OF 5/-

10,000 TARGET PRIZES

1,000 PRIZES OF 2/6

2,025 CASH PRIZES!

RESULT OF "BULLETS" No. 581.

FIRST PRIZE OF 2,000 Guineas:
Mr. A. STUBBS, Granby Road, Bakewell, Derbyshire.

Example:—BEST WAY
Bullet:—"UPLIFTING," NOT "LEVELLING" WORLD.

SECOND PRIZE OF £500:
Mr. S. VICCARS, Glenfield, Nr. Leicester.
Example: I WONDER WHEN
Bullet:—WE'LL SING *International* ANTHEM.

THIRD PRIZE OF £250:
Mr. D. S. HUNDY, 5, Ellerslie Street, Yoker, Glasgow.
Example:—BY THE FIRE
Bullet:—ARMCHAIR HEROES—HERO'S ARMCHAIR.

FOURTH PRIZE OF £100:
Mr. W. SMITH, 56, Grey Street, Burnley, Lancs.
Example:—BEST WAY
Bullet:—IMPOSING OWN "DRINK RESTRICTIONS."

FIFTH PRIZE OF £50:
Mr. W. T. GILLARD, 53, Burghley Road, Kentish Town, London, N.W.
Example: IN LOVE'S KINGDOM
Bullet:—EAGER MEETING—MEAGRE EATING.

10 Prizes of £10 each:

Mrs. J. E. CLARK, 35, Rawson Road, Bolton, Lancs. MAKING A FORTUNE—ON "THREE ACRES"—BUILDER.

E. J. DANIELS, 14, Manor Road, West Hill, Hastings. A MILLION ALTERS TASTES—NOT TASTE.

J. DAVIES, Bridge Cottage, Felinfoel, Llanelly. IF REVOLUTION CAME—"SNATCHING MEALS" DIFFERENT WAY.

A. KING, 40, Gloucester Road, Trowbridge. WASTED—AMELIORATION—NOT MEALY ORATION.

Mrs. E. LAWTIE, 19, Sandford Avenue, Donnybrook, Co. Dublin. IF REVOLUTION CAME—TRENCHES READY IN LONDON.

S. LESLIE, 4, Gowrie Place, Dundee. IF REVOLUTION CAME—"HATS OFF!"—HEADS INSIDE.

E. R. PARKER, 103, Plymouth Grove, C-on-M, Manchester. HARD—KEEPING TEN—AND COMMANDMENTS.

W. R. SMITH, 92, Kingarth St., Glasgow. IF NOBODY TOLD LIES—AMEN TO SOCIAL AMENITIES.

E. SMITHSON, 73, Bishop Street, Alexandra Park, Manchester. TO A MAN—NOT INTO, WOMANLY TURN.

Mrs. WOODWARD, 154, Wolverton Road, Stony Stratford, Bucks. MAKING A FORTUNE—SHORTENS LIFE—LENGTHENS FUNERAL.

10 Prizes of £5 each:

Mrs. J. AVENSLEY, 30, Beverley Street, Nottingham. RISKY—NEW FIREMAN THOUGHT BATH.

A. M. BURGESS, 76, Woodside Road, Wood Green, N. THE PICTURE—IN FIRE—ORCHESTRA, WIRELESS.

R. H. CARLENER, 53, Wolsdon Street, Plymouth. NOT NEEDED—CHIME TO *Office* CLOCK.

T. FRANCIS, 292, Clapham Road, London, S.W. POSSIBLE SOON—"ANYWHERE BUT HOME, JAMES!"

M. JOHNSON, c/o. 26, Birkdale Street, Cheetham Hill, Manchester. JOY AND SORROW—SECURED HOUSE—GOT IN.

A. MACPHAIL, 37, Bank Street, Greenock. POSSIBLE SOON—GETTING WRONG NUMBER "AUTOMATICALLY."
(Entered on "Target" Prize coupon.)

J. MITCHELL, 34, Shakespeare Avenue, Rock Ferry. RISKY—SMILE BACKING, BILLS STACKING.

J. POLLOCK, 8, Clydeford Road, Cambuslang, N.B. BABY'S FUTURE—PARENTS DIFFER—NEIGHBOURS AGREE.

W. RUNDLE, 20, Linden Road, Bristol. CARELESSLY—MILKMAN DELIVERED WRONG HUSBAND.

C. TRELAWNEY, The Green, St. Martin, Cornwall. KISSES—KEEP SPICE IN "SPLICE."

(Continued on page 6.)

ADDRESS ALL COUPONS TO "Bullets" No. 584, "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C.2. (Comp.)

Example _____ Closing Date, Thursday, Dec. 10.
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(584) P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 6. With 1 Coupon, send P.O. for 6d.
Signed _____
Address _____

Example _____ Closing Date, Thursday, Dec. 10.
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(584) P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 6. With 2 Coupons, send P.O. for 1s.
Signed _____
Address _____

"Bullets" must consist of Two, Three or Four Words.

Example _____ Closing Date, Thursday, Dec. 10.
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(584) P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 6. With 3 Coupons, send P.O. for 1s. 6d.
Signed _____
Address _____

Example _____ Closing Date, Thursday, Dec. 10.
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(584) P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 6. With 4 Coupons, send P.O. for 2s.
Signed _____
Address _____

If you wish to send in further "Bullets" you can write them on plain paper.

HOW TO MAKE "BULLETS."

Choose any of the *Examples* printed; then give any Two, Three or Four words having some bearing on the *Example* chosen, **EACH** of which can **begin with any letter in the alphabet.** These specimens will guide you: *Example*:—THE MIDDLE CLASSES; *Bullet*:—VERY SILENT—VERY SOUND. *Example*:—THE DOLE; *Bullet*:—FEEDS MAN—STARVES MANHOOD. *Example*:—HAPPY FAMILY; *Bullet*:—"BROOD" WHO DON'T. The entry fee for one coupon is 6d. If sending more than one, enclose a postal order at the rate of 6d. for each coupon used.

PLEASE POST EARLY IF YOU CAN.
You can help us by posting early, but all "Bullets" entered in time receive the same careful adjudication.

EXAMPLES FOR "BULLETS" No. 584.

BETTER WORLD
PRESENT I WANT
OUR GOVERNMENT
HEARD IN HOSPITAL
UNCLE SAM
MODERN EVE
RUSSIAN BOOTS
DELIVERING THE GOODS
A NEW MAN
RED TIE
WHEN WE ALL FLY
ABROAD
IN EASY STREET
WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN
MAGIC WAND
A LOVE STORY
WHAT THE POSTMAN SAID
ON SUNDAY
HOME FOR ME
AT CHRISTMAS
LETTER FROM HER
VILLAGE POLICEMAN
THING THAT MATTERS
NO FOOL
WHISPERED TO ME
FLOWER OF YOUTH
THANKS TO BABY
NATURALLY
HEART OF GOLD
OUR TURKEY
CLOSE SHAVE
WHAT HE TOLD HER
SCARCE
DOGS OF WAR
IF I WASN'T MARRIED
HER HAIR
FATHER'S MISTAKE
SOON
DOING NOTHING
WHAT IS WEALTH?

DISFIGURING SKIN TROUBLE

GERMOLENE POSITIVELY CURES IMPETIGO

Baby Jones.

Mrs. J. M. Jones, of 3, Roman Road, Bamyell Onlwyn, nr. Neath, S. Wales, says: "Last August, I took my little boy (four years of age) and baby girl (two years) to the seaside, where they became sunburnt. Irritation caused them to scratch, and in due course their faces were a mass of sores. The trouble spread and eventually their fingers and arms were covered also. For two months they suffered, although I tried all sorts of ointments. Then I tried Germolene, and in a fortnight the children were perfectly cured."

Master Jones.

Use Germolene for **Eczema, Rashes, Ulcers, Piles, Itching, Cuts and Burns, Skin Eruptions, Ringworm, Heat Rash, Sunburn, and all Itching or Ulcerated Surfaces.**

GERMOLENE ASEPTIC SOAP is unrivalled for cleansing, soothing, and protecting the tender skins of infants. Mothers who know the value of Germolene will be eager to complete the treatment by employing this luxurious preparation. Obtainable at all Chemists, 1/- per tablet, or in boxes of 3 tablets, 2/9.

HOME PRICES: **1/3** *and* **3/-**. *Of all Chemists*

Germolene
The Aseptic Skin Dressing

Don't Wear a Truss!

After 30 Years' Experience an Appliance has been invented for Men, Women and Children that Cures Rupture.

From a photograph of Mr. C. E. Brooks, inventor of the Appliance, who Cured himself, and whose experience has since benefited thousands. If ruptured, write to-day.

Sent on Trial.

If you have tried most everything else come to us. Where others fail is where we have our greatest success. Send attached coupon to-day and we will send you free our illustrated book on Rupture and its Cure, showing the Appliance, giving you prices and names of many people who have tried it and are extremely grateful. It is instant relief where all others fail. Remember we use no salves, no harness, no lies. We make it to your measure and send it to you on a strict guarantee of satisfaction or money refunded, and we have put our price so low that anybody, rich or poor, can buy it. We send it on trial to prove that what we say is true. You are the judge and once having seen our illustrated book and read it you will be as enthusiastic as the thousands of patients whose letters are on the file in our office. Fill in the Free Coupon below and post to-day.

FREE INFORMATION COUPON.

BROOKS APPLIANCE CO., Ltd. (387A), 80, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2.

Please send me by post in plain wrapper your Illustrated Book and full information about your appliance for the cure of Rupture.

NAME.....

ADDRESS .....

Please write plainly. .....

Warm Winter Overcoats FREE!

WE will give you another Coat FREE OF CHARGE, if within two years this Coat fails to give you every satisfaction in ordinary wear.

To convince you of the exceptional value and wear-resisting qualities of these Coats, we give you the above guarantee, a guarantee that no other Tailor would offer with even a £6:6:0 Coat.

THE OVERCOATS which CURZON'S ARE OFFERING AT

25/- EACH

Postage 1/- extra.

are well worth £3:3:0

Never, at any time, have you bought a bigger bargain.

If on the receipt of the Coat you don't consider this

THE Biggest BARGAIN

you have ever purchased, we will immediately refund your money in full.

Here is a photograph of one of the actual Overcoats, but even this does not show you what a wonderful bargain we are offering.

PRICE 25/- (Postage 1/-)

All sizes in stock from 34 to 44 inches chest. We can fit all sizes from 5ft. 2in. to 6ft. 3in.

These coats are absolutely guaranteed for hard wear, being made from very durable Medium and Dark Grey Cheviots, lined with good quality Italian and everlasting Glissade sleeve linings, well tailored and finished, in the ever stylish Single Breasted Style. Do not be prejudiced by the "given away" price, but call or write at once for one of these Coats.

Customers ordering by post can do so without the slightest risk, as if you are not more than pleased when you receive the garment, return it to us and we will refund your money without question.

CURZON BROS LTD

The famous London Tailors and Outfitters

ORDERS BY POST TO HEAD DEPOT ONLY

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ALSO OBTAINABLE AT ALL OUR BRANCHES.

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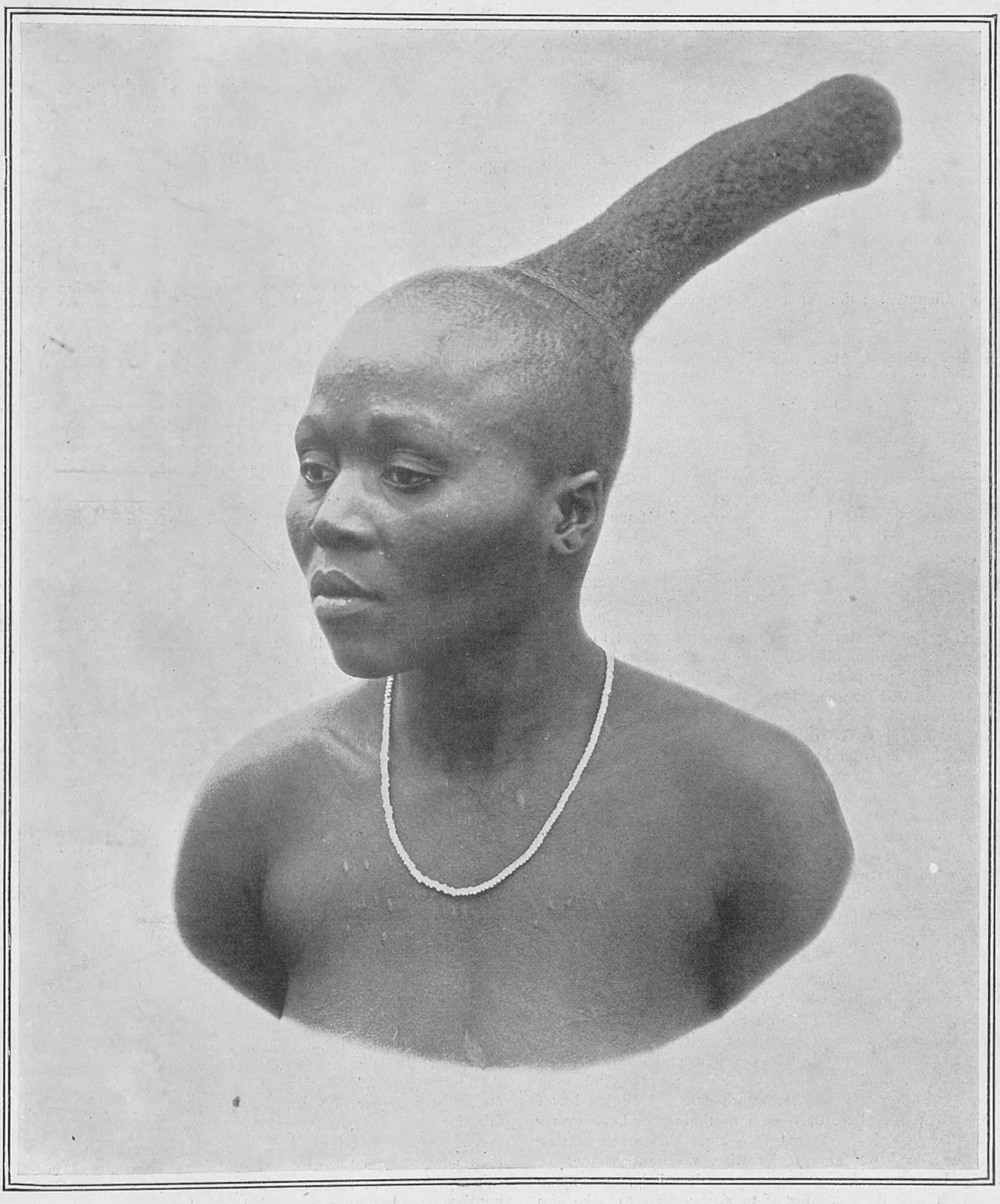

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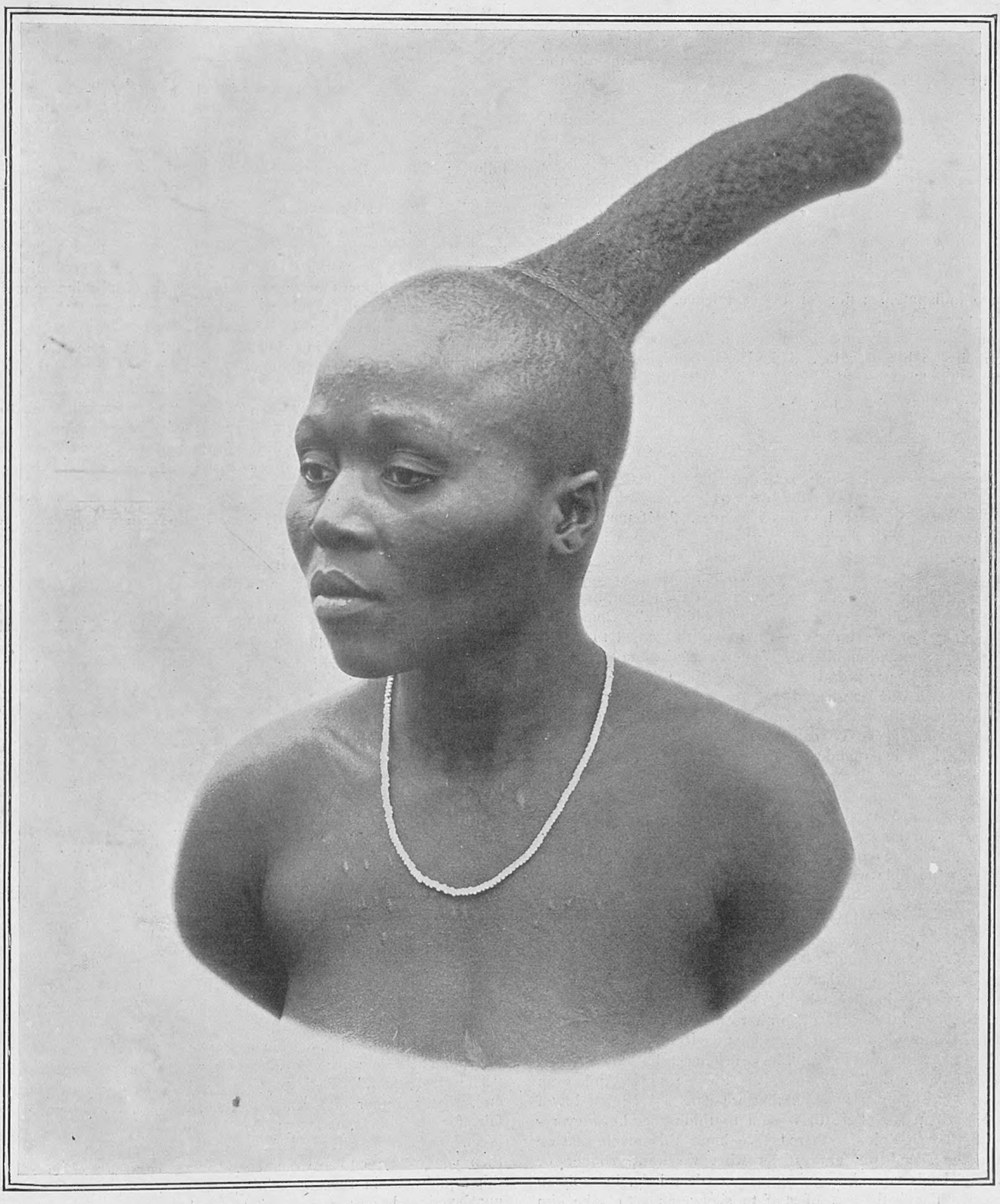

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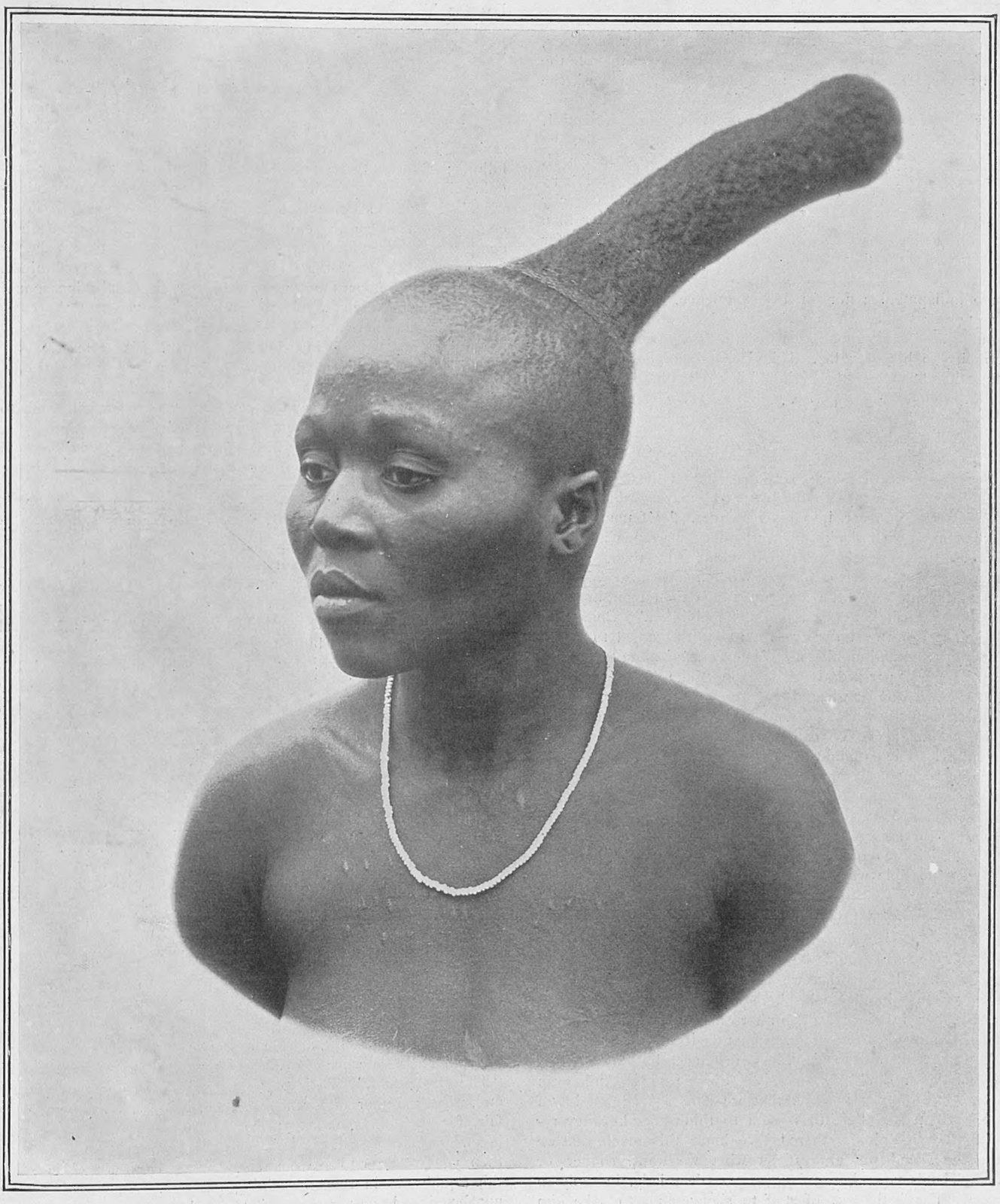

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